

THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Summer 2011

Volume 19, Number 2



A 1686 SILVER NEW ENGLAND SIX PENCE?

Featured in this issue

- The Story of Miller 32.9-X.7
- Massachusetts Silver? A Real "What's It"
- Defiant Head Counterfeit Halfpennies
- A New Vernon Medal
- Counterfeit 8 Reale -- Calbeto 1900
- The Pennsauken Hoard
- St. Patrick Halfpence Interlock Chart
- Second Quarter Colonial Auction Reports



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Dues are \$25-regular (including 1st class mailing of the Newsletter); \$10 for junior
members (under 18).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Jim Rosen)

I hope all of you are having a wonderful summer, especially after the horrific winter we had in the Northeast. Unfortunately, I did not make it to the ANA this year as travel plans interfered. Optimistically, I'll make it to Chicago. Needless to say, this is a very challenging and yet hopefully rewarding time for C4. As many of you know, M&G will no longer produce our auctions after many, many years, thus making this convention the first without an auction in our traditional fashion. But the Board of Directors and I felt that it was better not to have an auction than to have a poor auction, which might adversely affect us for years to come. So this November 2011, we will not be having an auction in the traditional sense of the word. I am addressing the convention issues earlier than usual (usually in the *Newsletter* that comes out in October) so that people can make plans, if need be, now rather than finding out in October that things are going to be a little different than usual. So Thursday night of the convention, we are going to have our traditional social and informal show and tell. Then Friday night we will have a presentation of a Life Time Achievement Award to one of our esteemed members, after which we will have our Educational Program. On Saturday evening, we are going to have an expanded social, to celebrate our 15 years in Boston. During this time, we are going to present a few Awards followed by a donated lots auction. As usual, our auction will consist of coins, books signed and annotated by the authors, manufactured cabinets by our wonderful members and other numismatic related material. As the proceeds from this donated lots auction go 100% to C4, this auction could certainly raise significant amounts of money to help defray our convention expenses. So, if you have any coins or colonial numismatic related material that you would like to donate to the auction, this is your chance to do so. Since we are a 501(c)3, i.e., non-profit organization, your donation is tax deductible...although I would run this past your accountant just to be sure. After the social, auction and presentation of Awards, we are planning to have an extensive colonial happening with tables set up for specific colonial series. So bring those coins you've been dying to show and have fun. In addition, I would love people to spontaneously grab the microphone and tell some of their favorite memories of our conventions from the past.

So what are the implications of M&G's absence from our convention? Obviously, no auction, but Chris McCawley will still be there. I, the National Officers, the Regional Vice Presidents, past Presidents and many club members and consultants feel that without an auction, our club, as we know it today, will no longer survive. As many of you know, I have been working diligently since last November to find another auction company to produce our auction. But unfortunately, there are few auction companies left as mergers have reduced the number to a small handful of companies. I have been negotiating with Stack's Bowers since January and we have finally reached a verbal agreement for them to produce our auction. However, our convention must move its home from Boston to Philadelphia and the date will change from November to September 20-22, 2012, Thursday thru Saturday night, with no Sunday show. I know that this will not please everyone but we had no choice. We don't move...we have no auction and in all likelihood the end of our club as we know it. The BOD and our

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consultants are 100% behind this move and I am very enthusiastic about this new venture for us. I have spoken to the directors of the Whitman Show in Philadelphia with whom we will be attached much like the Bay State Show, and they are very eager for us to move to Philadelphia, and believe it or not, the hotel costs are the same or cheaper than they were in Boston! The food, outstanding, and really close by and Philadelphia is so colonial and historic. I would love to have C4 sponsor a tour through Independence Mall...so great, and I know just the person who could lead it. And for me, it is a coming home, for I did my medical training in Philadelphia in the 70's and have such fond memories of the City of Brotherly Love. For those of you who do not know about the Philadelphia Whitman Show, it has approximately 600+ dealers, exposing our club to new collectors and dealers who might otherwise have never connected with C4, and at the same time, exposing our members to dealers and collectors that they might otherwise have never met, fostering new and exciting relationships. That is something to look forward to. Our hope is that we will have an Americana Sale, co-sponsored by C4 and Stack's Bowers with our own separate catalogue, with internet and phone bidding and obviously open to the public. This venue will enhance the quality of the consignments, thus improving a slowly deteriorating auction scenario that we have seen in recent years. This auction will include not just colonial coins, but colonial paper money and colonial ephemera, two areas that we have ignored for our entire history. With that, we have shunned, although not intentionally, a large group of very interesting and gifted collectors. Our apologies!

The Board of Directors now has conference calls every three months to work on many aspects of the club that can't wait for the annual convention. Our club, we feel, is much too important to rely on yearly meetings to conduct important business and thus, the implementation of quarterly conference calls. Your Board of Directors and consultants have probably been busier these past 8 months than in any time in our history.

As information about our relationship with Stack's Bowers becomes more cemented, I will notify you all via the *Newsletter* and if something is really time sensitive, it will be posted on the web site. It has been my pleasure to serve you as your President. I am working hard for all of you and I hope that I deserve your continued confidence.

Jim

A GIFT TO BE CHERISHED AN ANNOTATED STATE COINAGE OF NEW ENGLAND

(Ray Williams)

It was back in May of 2008 that I received a phone call from Bob Vlack. Bob is a recognized author and researcher – familiar to all of us. He said that he was relocating from Connecticut to Florida and wanted to donate some library material to C4. On Tuesday June 4th 2008, I filled the gas tank and headed for Brookfield, CT. I was greeted by Bob and his lovely wife, and headed to the library. After looking through this working library, Bob and I set aside a few boxes of catalogs and material for the C4 Library. The three of us had a wonderful lunch at a lakeside restaurant and I headed home about mid-afternoon.

Before heading home, Bob placed a book in my hands, saying, “Ray, there are a number of collectors that would like to have this book. I want you to have it!” I looked at it, and thanked him. I was not aware of how cool a book this was.

After arriving home, the book sat around for a few weeks before I made some inquiries as to what it was. It has a red hard cover with the title: *The State Coinage of New England* by Henry C. Miller [and] Hillyer Ryder in gold gilt on the front cover. (Figure 1) The contents are a photocopy of the 1920 original work published by the ANS. On the inside of the front cover is a return address label for Bob when he was living in West Peabody, MA. On the page facing the rear cover is a stamp reading “Wells Bindery Inc. Waltham, Mass. Oct. 1959. All throughout, there are notations in red ink in the CT and VT sections. (Figure 2) There are no annotations in the MA Copper section.

A post to the “colonialcoins” online chat group had referred me to a book by Charles Davis: *American Numismatic Literature*. Number 714 in the book reveals the following information:

A facsimile reprint of the 1920 original with glossy photographic reproductions of the original collotype plates. Issued in a very small edition, ten copies, all contain the notes of Walter Breen and Bob Vlack, transcribed into each by Al Hoch’s wife Carole from her hospital bed after giving birth to the couple’s last child.

After finding this out, I was even more thrilled to have a book with this background and history! Not being a serious CT or VT collector, I didn’t know if any of the annotations were important today. Even if they aren’t, this was cutting edge numismatics from the 1950’s. Looking at the VT notes, I saw something that brought back memories... “BB” numbers.

Over a decade ago I transcribed Walter Breen’s unpublished manuscript on NJ Coppers. In that manuscript were “BB” numbers for NJ Copper varieties and a reference

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to them being Boyd/Breen numbers. Walter Breen and FCC Boyd had come up with a system of categorizing NJ Coppers by mint location. Although an interesting concept, and fun to study, it wasn't really practical. In this book Bob gave me, there were "BB" numbers in the VT section. Did Boyd also work on classifying VT Coppers with Breen???

Well, I posted several vague questions on this topic and discussed it with a couple close friends. There seemed to be a consensus that the "BB" numbers assigned for the VT varieties in my book were Bressett/Breen numbers. This seems to make sense. As young as Ken Bressett appears when you meet him in person, he was actively doing colonial research in the 1950's! Ken also published an extensive work on VT coinage in the Bicentennial ANS publication *Studies on Money in Early America*. In this book, Ken develops a new numbering system for VTs, giving numbers to the obverse and letters to the reverse. In the current standard reference for VT Coppers by Tony Carlotto (published by C4 in 1998), VT Coppers are attributed by both Ryder and Bressett numbers. It wouldn't surprise me to see future generations using only the Bressett numbering system because it tells you much more about the dies.

Last Summer I was able to attend the ANA's World Fair of Money in Boston and had a thoroughly enjoyable week. One of my convention highlights was being able to sit down and talk with Ken on several occasions. He confirmed that back in the 1950's, he and Breen had worked on the Vermont series and that these were Bressett/Breen numbers in my book. During our talk, Ken had picked up my book and leafed through it at several different points. He regaled me with a number of stories and recollections. I could listen to him for hours, but he was a busy man.

Having this confirmation of Ken's involvement, I made charts of Ryder numbers, BB numbers and Bressett Numbers, just to see if there were any patterns or similarities I could find. (Figure 3) You'll notice that the 3-digit BB numbers from 1959 seem to coincide with what are generally believed to be Machin's Mills production of VT Coppers.

With respect to the information contained about CT Coppers... being a Jersey guy, I just don't know. But just in case there was any important information contained in the red ink annotations, I sent the book to Randy Clark to study and make any pertinent notes for the CT collectors. I also sent the book to Tony Carlotto, in case there was any information he could use for a future second edition of his VT Copper reference book.

Had I known the important numismatic history this book contains, I would have certainly asked Bob Vlack to sign it for me and I would have shown much more appreciation at the time. Hopefully the words in this article will express that.

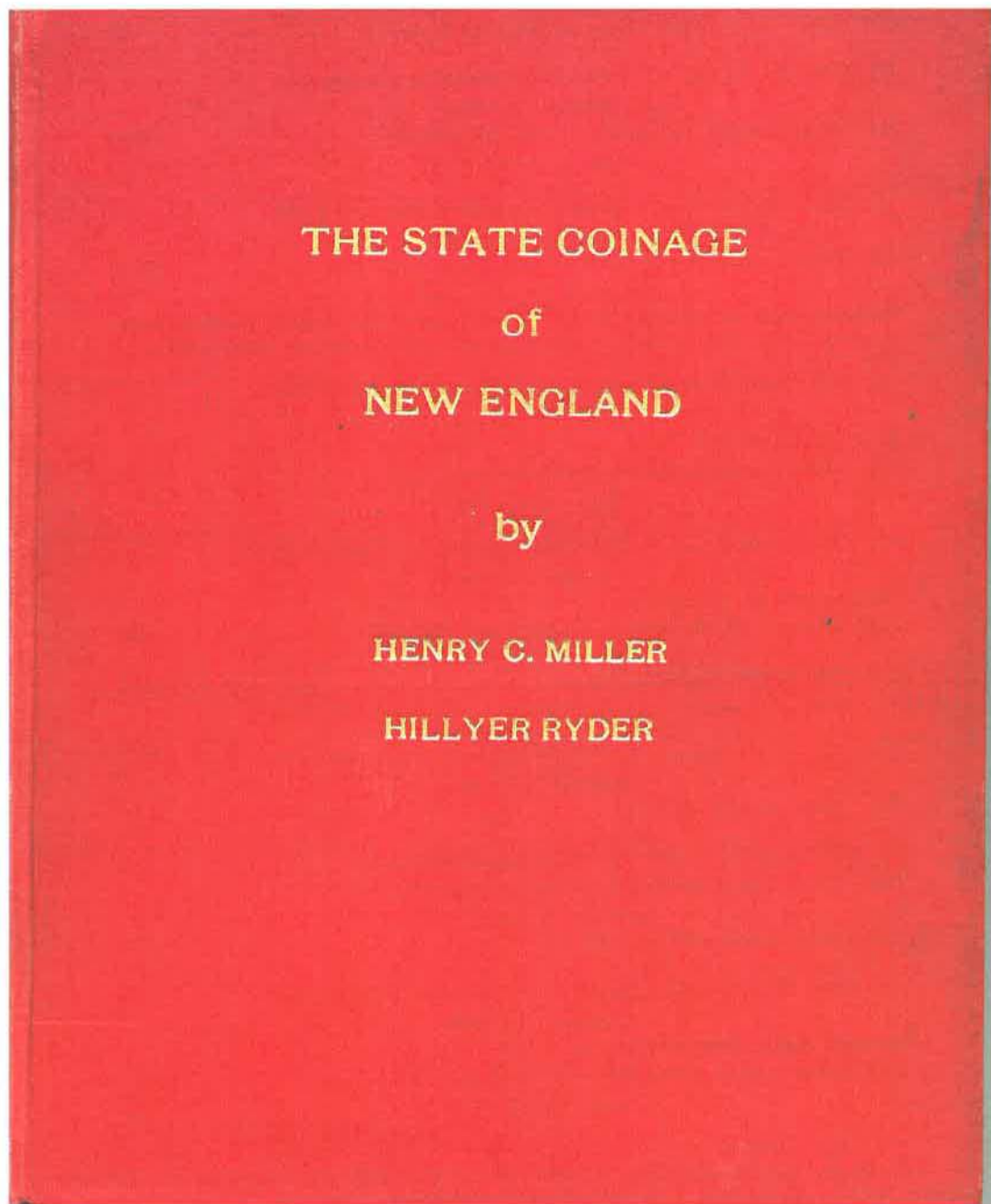


Figure 1. Front Cover of the Annotated State Coinage of New England

THE COLONIAL COINS OF VERMONT		65
10. 1786. Crosby's 2—A. Mailed and laureated bust facing left.		BB-8
VERMON: AUCTORI:		
Rev. Goddess seated, facing left, with branch and pole.	(R ¹)	
INDE + ET LIB 1786	(R ⁵)	
11. 1786. Crosby's 3—B. Mailed and laureated bust facing left.		BB-9
VERMON: AUCTORI		
Rev. Liberty seated, facing left with branch and pole	(R ¹)	
INDE: x ET LIB: 1786	(R ⁵)	
The extreme rarity attributed by Mr. Crosby to this variety (R ⁴) is hardly justified, yet the few specimens found, whose devices and legends can all be plainly seen are extremely rare. <i>found after coin was caused by die break & not intentional</i>		
12. 1787. Crosby's 1—A. Mailed and laureated bust facing right.		BB-13
VERMON AUCTORI		
No berries on wreath.		
Rev. Liberty seated, facing left, with branch and pole.	(R ⁴)	
INDE ET LIB 1787		
13. 1787. Crosby's 1—C. Mailed and laureated bust facing right.		BB-101
VERMON AUCTORI		
Three berries on wreath.		
Rev. Britannia seated, facing left with branch and pole.	(R ¹)	
BRITAN NIA 1787		
This reverse die is so badly worn, that the date does not show. Specimens of counterfeit British halfpence may readily be found showing this reverse in fine condition.		
14. 1787. Crosby's 2—A. Mailed and laureated bust facing right.	<i>Obverse die same as BB-12 20, 21, 22, 23 & 1788</i>	
VERMON AUCTORI		
Rev. From same die as No. 12.	(R ³)	
15. 1787. Crosby's 3—B. Obv. From same die as No. 11.		BB-10
Rev. Liberty seated, facing left with branch and pole.		
INDE: x ET LIB: 1787		
A bad break nearly obliterates the date.	(R ²)	
16. 1788. Crosby's 1—A. Mailed and laureated bust facing right.		BB-22
VERMON AUCTORI		
A equally distant from head and U. <i>U distant from hair, A is imperfect</i>		
Rev. Liberty seated, facing left with branch and pole.	(R ²)	
INDE ET LIB 1788	(R ³)	
17. 1788. Crosby's 1—A. Mailed and laureated bust facing right.		BB-21
Crosby gives three dies of his obv. 1 of 1788. Two of these are described in obverses 16 and 18 of this list. No specimen of the third die has been met with.		
VERNON AUCTORI	(R ⁵)	
<i>U touches hair, A is perfect</i>		
Rev. From same die as No. 16. Branch head points to upright of E. Single line above date and touching all figures of date.	(R ³)	

Figure 2. A typical annotated page from the book

Ryder	BB	Bressett	BB	Bressett	Ryder	Bressett	Ryder	BB
1	112	26-Z	1	1-A	2	1-A	2	1
2	1	1-A	2	2-B	3	2-B	3	2
3	2	2-B	3	3-C	4	3-C	4	3
4	3	3-C	4	4-D	6	4-D	6	4
5	201		5	5-E	7	5-E	7	5
6	4	4-D	6	6-E	8	6-E	8	6
7	5	5-E	7	7-F	9	7-F	9	7
8	6	6-E	8	8-G	10	8-G	10	8
9	7	7-F	9	9-H	11	9-H	11	9
10	8	8-G	10	9-I	15	9-I	15	10
11	9	9-H	11	10-J	34	10-J	34	11
12	13	11-K	12	10-K	14	10-K	14	12
13	101	17-V	13	11-K	12	10-L	20	16
14	12	10-K	14	12-K	32	10-M	37	
15	10	9-I	15	13-L	19	10-N	38	
16	22	15-S	16	10-L	20	10-O	23	17
17	21	14-S	17	10-O	23	10-P	36	18
18	103	19-X	18	10-P	36	10-Q	22	19
19	15	13-L	19	10-Q	22	10-R	21	20
20	16	10-L	20	10-R	21	11-K	12	13
21	20	10-R	21	14-S	17	12-K	32	14
22	19	10-Q	22	15-S	16	13-L	19	15
23	17	10-O	23	16-T	26	14-S	17	21
24	108	16-S	24	16-U	25	15-S	16	22
25	24	16-U	101	17-V	13	16-S	24	108
26	23	16-T	102	18-W	27	16-T	26	23
27	102	18-W	103	19-X	18	16-U	25	24
28	106	21-U	104	20-X	35	17-V	13	101
29	107	22-U	105	21-Y	33	18-W	27	102
30	109	23-S	106	21-U	28	19-X	18	103
31	110	24-U	107	22-U	29	20-X	35	104
32	14	12-K	108	16-S	24	21-U	28	106
33	105	21-Y	109	23-S	30	21-Y	33	105
34	11	10-J	110	24-U	31	22-U	29	107
35	104	20-X	112	26-Z	1	23-S	30	109
36	18	10-P	201		5	24-U	31	110
37		10-M		10-M	37	25-U	CT M 1-1	
38		10-N		10-N	38	26-Z	1	112
39					39		5	201
CT M 1-1		25-U		25-U	CT M 1-1		39	

NOTE: The red BB numbers were added to the book in red ink and represent the 5 varieties discovered up to 1959, since the original publication in 1920. Ryder 37 – 39 were discovered after 1959.

Figure 3. Three VT Conversion Charts comparing Ryder / Bresset / BB die designations

THESE ARE THE GOOD OLD DAYS . . . OR THE STORY OF THE MILLER 32.9-X.7 CONNECTICUT COPPER

(Jeff Rock)

The title for this article is taken from a song that those born after 1950 would probably recognize, Carly Simon's 1970's mega-hit "*Anticipation*," which explored the difference between dreaming about a possible future and appreciating where one is today. But this article could have also been titled after another hit song from a decade later, "*Another One Bites the Dust*" by stadium rockers Queen. How do those two disparate sentiments relate to colonial numismatics? Read on!

Colonial collectors were pleasantly surprised at the appearance at auction last year of the collection of Phillip W. Keller, split into two different auctions, October and December of 2010. Mr. Keller was unknown to all but a handful of people when his collection came on the market, really just those who had been active in the 1960's and early 1970's (a sadly dwindling number) and those who assiduously read the early issues of *The Colonial Newsletter* and had an appreciation for those who had gone before. Sadly, it was only after Mr. Keller passed away that the collection came to prominence, but I suspect he would have been extremely surprised at the results, including a new record price for a Connecticut copper – the first to sell for six figures, even surpassing the highest prices for a couple of coins in the John Ford sales a few years back!

What made these prices amazing was that the collection wasn't given the treatment it deserved in my opinion.* Sold by Heritage, the coins were somewhat randomly ordered (anyone collecting a series by variety would have to read through the entire run of that series to see if a given variety was offered – and then do the same thing in the "internet only" portion of the sale which contained several hundred additional coins, and then do it two more times with the second sale of the Keller coins a few months later, which were also sold in both floor and internet sections). Most lots were minimally described, seemingly more a product of 1960's-style auction cataloguing, when these things had minimal value and little interest.

While the printed version of the auction catalogues had a fair number of coins photographed, the online version had photos of almost everything, which certainly was a boon to collectors. Nearly all of the coins in the collection were slabbed after Heritage got the consignment, the "problem" pieces done by services that accepted such coins. The grading standards used were, to say the least, bizarre – though in a welcome change of pace from most auction houses that don't specialize in colonials, the coins here offered were severely UNDER graded. Coins in slabs with grades of VF20 generally

*Opinions are those of the author, and not necessarily those of the editor or any other C4 representative.

graded anywhere from EF40 to MS60 – presumably the slabbing entities relied on Keller's own grades from a half century ago – a very conservative grading era that was closer to British standards (where an Uncirculated coin needed to be mostly red, and the next highest grade may well have been VF).

Regardless of the lack of cataloguing skill, the coins routinely brought strong prices – probably close to what they would have realized had they been in a well-researched Stack's sale with several hundred pages of text and photos. Indeed, this author remembers a conversation he had with Michael Hodder during the blockbuster John Ford sales – we both agreed that instead of the stellar effort he gave in describing Ford's Connecticut coppers he could have instead grouped the entire collection of this series into one single lot and described it as "Several hundred Connecticut coppers, all different varieties, nice grades throughout. Mr. Ford paid \$500 for this entire group" – and it would still have realized within 10-20% of what it brought, even with all the floor and mail bidders battling coins to record prices. The difference, perhaps is more a point of pride than one of economics.

But I digress, and this is not an auction catalogue review. Instead, this concerns a single coin in the second portion of the Keller sale, a piece that was incongruously placed in a bulk lot. The lot in question was from the December 2010 portion of the sale, and was Lot 3005. It contained six coins, none of which were plated in the printed catalogue, though photos of the individual pieces were viewable online. The lot was described in full as follows:

Six Piece Lot of Colonial Issues Uncertified. 1722 Rosa Americana Halfpenny, Whitman-1222, VG porous, Purchased from W.E. Johnson (6/17/1959); Same, VG rough, Purchased from Cessna (9/6/1952); 1723 Rosa Americana Twopence, W-1346, Good, Purchased from Richard Picker (6/14/1967); Same, VG, Purchased from Richard Picker (8/11/1961); 1787 Connecticut, "Miller 32.9-X.7" per Philip Keller, AG, Purchased from Bowers and Ruddy (8/5/1971); 1788 New Jersey, Maris 67-v, Good, porous, Purchased from Ramsey (2/11/1962). From The W. Philip Keller Collection of U.S. Colonials. (#104)

The grouping, of course, made little sense other than as a "catch-all" lot of lower-grade material that had enough problems that they couldn't be slabbed. Yet one coin in that group stands out – the sole Connecticut copper. Miller 32.9-X.7 which has been listed as an extremely rare variety. In this author's article in *The Colonial Newsletter* of May 1991 (Whole Number 88), updating the varieties of Connecticut coppers, it was there noted the variety was "discovered by Frederick Canfield and first reported in *Additions and Corrections*. The discovery coin is now in the ANS, one is in the Barnsley/CNL Reference Collection and two others were formerly in the collection of Norman Bryant (one of which is probably the coin in the Barnsley/CNL Reference Collection)."

Canfield gave an extensive description of both the obverse and reverse dies, which will be related later in this article, but there were no photographs of it (or of anything else in the *Additions and Corrections*).

The inclusion of such a rarity in a bulk lot could let the specialist cherry-pick something extremely rare if enough other collectors didn't notice it – and since it was buried in a low grade bulk lot, not listed with the Connecticut coppers proper, there was a chance that could happen. In the end, the entire lot sold for \$345 – roughly \$50 a coin plus the buyer's fee. So, did someone get the buy of the year, paying a trifle for a coin worth thousands or, given the few reported to exist, even tens of thousands of dollars?

The short answer is “No.” The longer answer though can open a window onto an era that is long since gone – and, like the Carly Simon song, maybe get us to appreciate just where we are right now.

When I first saw this lot and looked at the photo of the coins, I immediately knew the Connecticut copper was misattributed – looking at the obverse was enough to tell me what the variety actually was. A simple misattribution isn't all that unusual, especially on lower grade coins – I average one on each of my own price lists (and note the error on the following list), and writing an article on any sort of misattribution would not make for very good reading. But what made this piece so interesting was that it wasn't misattributed by some anonymous cataloguer with little colonial experience – it had a long history of misattribution; and as such, it opens a window onto a time that has long since passed.

The coin in question is illustrated as Figure 1. As one can see, not a lot of detail is left, though enough to certainly give an idea of what the type could be. Figure 2 is a photo of Mr. Keller's meticulously typed envelope, which was included with the coin. Indeed, almost all of the Keller coins were accompanied by their original envelopes and any other paper ephemera that accompanied the envelopes. Heritage deserves major kudos for this effort, especially since almost all of the Keller coins were slabbed. To reunite paper and coin after the slabbing process – and keep them together through days of lot viewing and the mailing process must have taken a lot of effort, and it's an effort that many auction firms do not make, the end result being that these valuable bits of history are lost forever.

As can be seen from the envelope, Mr. Keller had no doubt about the attribution – there is no question mark or qualifier like “maybe” or “possibly.” Some newer collectors may be surprised to see it listed as “just” R-6 – but, again, this was a different era and used different standards. The rarity scale then in use was that popularized by Crosby and others, which ranged from “C” for Common, then R-1 through R-6, with R-6 the highest rarity possible, roughly equivalent to High R-7 through full R-8 today. This started to change with William H. Sheldon's work on US Large Cents (which used the familiar 9-point rarity scale), but did not really cross over into colonials until the late 1960's and early 1970's, mostly in the cataloguing of Walter Breen.



Figure 1. Phillip Keller's Example of "1787 Connecticut
Miller 32.9-X.7"

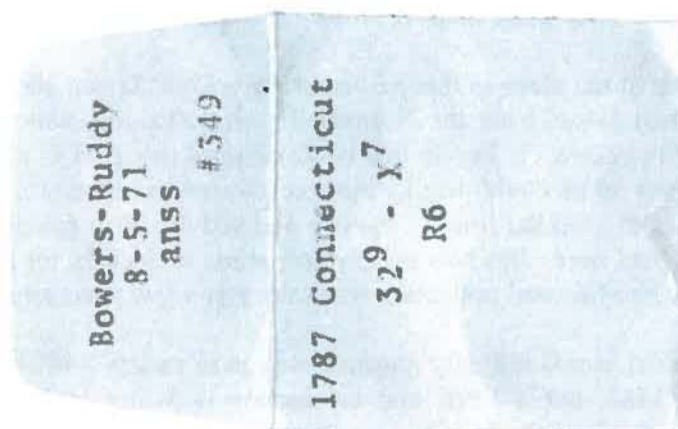


Figure 2. Phillip Keller's Original Typed Envelope

The coin in question was purchased from Bowers and Ruddy on August 5, 1971 – a time when there was both a Bowers AND a Ruddy actually at the firm, both of whom had notable experience with colonial coins. Jim Ruddy, now retired from coins (but still operating a General Store Museum in Palm Springs) formed a good collection of Vermont coppers and an even better one of New Jersey coppers, including a "Date Under Plowbeam." Dave Bowers (who is still active, and really the Dean of American Numismatics) formed several first-class collections, including one of the nicest runs of Vermont coppers assembled in a century. He also put together what is still one of the best sets of Connecticut coppers ever formed. The Bowers collection was assembled

mostly through the acquisition of other large collections – indeed, he purchased some of the best ones around intact, including the Norman Bryant collection (which itself contained the entire John M. Richardson collection) and Ted Craige's, as well as many examples from the Stepney Hoard, some of which were included in the Craige collection, while others were purchased privately. He kept the best example of each variety from the combined collections, and sold the rest through several issues of his firm's *Rare Coin Review* as well as by private sale and consigning some pieces to auction. This example appeared in the Sept-Oct, 1971 issue of *Rare Coin Review*, issue number 12 where it was listed among several HUNDRED Connecticut coppers on that list – one of the largest offerings of the series ever at fixed prices, and certainly the largest up to that time. It was listed on page 14, with the simple description of "1787 Draped Bust left. 32.9-X.7 (R-6). Abt. Good." It was priced at \$59 – which may not seem much for a very rare variety, but this was 40 years ago and prices were not high for the series as a whole (for instance, a 1786 Miller 2.2-D.2 in G/VG was \$109 – today, a five-figure coin, and a 1788 Miller 4.2-R in "Fair" was just \$49, which today would sell for low four-figures). These early *Rare Coin Reviews* are often overlooked, which is a shame because they are the only record of what was included in these great early collections, and though only a handful of pieces are photographed it may be possible to trace some of the rarer varieties. Good offerings of Connecticut coppers appeared in *Rare Coin Review* numbers 7, 12 and 15, all duplicates of coins that Bowers kept in his frontline collection.

The appearance of the piece in this particular *Rare Coin Review* means that it was certainly one of the two pieces from the Norman Bryant collection, which Bowers had purchased intact shortly before. If Bryant had two examples (his goal at the time was to have two of each variety so he could display obverse and reverse of each), then it would make sense for Bowers to keep the finer of the two and sell the other specimen, which is apparently what happened here. But now the mystery starts to deepen, for no example of the variety appeared when Bowers' collection was sold, just a few years later.

The coin pictured here is not only misattributed as to variety – it's not even of the correct year! It's a 1788, not a 1787, and the variety is Miller 16.1-H, ironically a common enough variety that was included, properly attributed, in each of the Keller, Bowers, Bryant and Richardson collections. Even more interesting is that not only is THIS example misattributed, but EVERY example of the variety is misattributed as well – the variety does not actually exist! The discovery example in the ANS is a misattributed 1788 Miller 16.1-H. The Barnsley specimen that went to The Colonial Newsletter Foundation and then to the ANS is a misattributed 1788 Miller 16.1-H. The Bryant-Bowers-Keller specimen here is, as mentioned, a misattributed 1788 Miller 16.1-H. If the Barnsley specimen isn't the second of the two Bryant coins and is a fourth example, odds are it is a misattributed 1788 Miller 16.1-H as well. It appears that sometime between 1971 (after Bowers purchased the Bryant collection, but before he sold the piece to Keller – and before one went to Barnsley, if that is the source of that coin) and 1975 (when the Bowers collection was sold at auction) one of two things happened. Either Dave Bowers himself became convinced that the variety was misattributed or the same thing happened when Walter Breen was cataloguing the Bowers collection for auction and he removed it from the sale. Perhaps some research

into the ANS library (especially the Walter Breen archives) will resolve the issue. It is worth noting that Breen made no mention of the variety at all in his cataloguing of the Bowers sale, nor did he include it in his *Encyclopedia* (where it would have been listed under his number 852, that listing with "8 varieties" noted – had the 32.9-X.7 been accepted by him, it would have been a ninth variety, joining the other eight 32-X die pairings). It is also not mentioned in Bowers' recent *Whitman Encyclopedia of Colonial and Early American Coins*. The series ends up losing a variety -- thus *Another One Bites the Dust* would have clearly fit as a title for this article as well!

When I earlier mentioned that a quick glance at the obverse was enough to tell me what the variety was, the detail that stuck out for me was the distinct eye, and a cursory glance at the reverse showed that my hunch was correct, as the reverse was clearly not of a 1787 type, but that of 1788. I would not suggest that my attribution skills were better than Canfield, Ryder, Barnsley, Keller or Bowers, and it made me wonder what had changed so much in a half century that made such a difference in attribution efficacy.

When Frederick Canfield first described this "variety" in the *Additions and Corrections* (published in the same 1920 volume of AJN as the original monograph), he gave extensive descriptions of the obverse and reverse – probably because no photographs were going to be printed of the new varieties, and he wanted to make sure the reader could attribute it just from a written description, which was as follows:

For Obverse "32.9" of 1787: "First cinquefoil close to point of bust. Second cinquefoil high and distant from period and hair. Third cinquefoil high and nearer C than wreath. Fourth cinquefoil high and near point of toga. Periods even with bottoms of adjoining letters. AUCT close, OR wide, CONNEC wide, with large C's. Second C barely touches hair; second O far from hair. Centers of last cinquefoil and period are in a straight line with lower corner of upper fillet end."

For Reverse "X.7" of 1787: "First cinquefoil is distant a little more than its own width from skirt of goddess. The next to the last cinquefoil is high and is half as far from pole as from hair. The last cinquefoil is far from B and near shield. Last period is very weak and close to shield. ETL are close, LIB are wide. Uprights of E and T lean to left. Tops of both letters are long. The upper 'hole' of B is double the size of the lower 'hole.' The date-line is double and unbroken. Both 7's are low. Top of 8 laps on lower line. A long lock of hair floats downward and to the right from the back of the neck. The upper ribbon does not reach the pole; its triangular right hand end resembles the head of a snake. The lower ribbon is high relief and crosses in front or outside of the pole. It looks somewhat like a horizontal break in the die."

Now, compare those descriptions to what Henry Miller had originally written for the correct attribution of these dies – neither of which were illustrated in his monograph.

For Obverse 16.1 of 1788: "First cinquefoil high, partly under bust. Second cinquefoil distant from period and hair. Third cinquefoil nearer C than wreath. Last

cinquefoil near end of toga and partly above it. Last period below fillet-ends. O in CONNEC distant from head. CO rather widely spaced.”

For Reverse H of 1788: “Branch hand opposite D. Branch points at first period. Fourth cinquefoil between head and pole. INDE widely spaced. ETL close. 7 low. Die-cracks occur from D to point below knee of goddess, thence downward to edge; along top of ETL; through lower curve of shield and from last cinquefoil to milling” – the description not helped by a misprint in the original monograph that transposed the last sentence with that of Reverse E listed a few inches above, a mistake that was noted in the *Additions and Corrections*.

A comparison of the two descriptions shows a lot of similarities between them, though sometimes described in slightly different ways; each author also focused on some areas that the other ignored, most notably Canfield not discussing the position of the branch hand and die breaks of the reverse, Miller not describing the unusual ribbons of the reverse goddess – and neither making mention of the unusual eye on the obverse bust.

A collector reading the descriptions for the 32.9-X.7, without access to photographs of that “variety” (or, for that matter, of the proper 1788 Miller 16.1-H variety) could well be forgiven for misattributing a dateless example and thinking that an extreme rarity was now in their possession. The fact that several of these were “known” would have added some level of credibility to the descriptions and attributions. This, then, is what interested me most about this particular coin.

Figure 3 shows the Barnsley example of “32.9-X.7.” Figure 4 shows the actual variety, 1788 Miller 16.1-H.

Harken back to the early 1960’s, if you dare. Some nostalgic collectors see this time solely as a Nirvana of low prices (this writer had discussed the period with Bob Vlack who remembers buying ROLLS of unattributed Connecticut coppers in this era for fifty cents a coin – and these were not low-grade, doggy pieces, but ones that averaged VF or so). But the flip-side to low prices of the era was, of course, low interest, and there were few collectors at the time. A handful of major collectors – Emery Mae Norweb, Eric P. Newman, John J. Ford and a few others already had major collections formed by this time and only pursued the few things that they lacked. There were never more than five or six serious specialists for the various state coinage series – Bill Anton in New Jersey coppers, Ned Barnsley in Connecticut, Bob Vlack and Dick August in pretty much every series were the names most people would know today, though there were always a few others working in the area.



Figure 3. Ned Barnsley's example of "Miller 32.9-X.7"



Figure 4. 1788 Connecticut, Miller 16.1-H

The chicken-and-egg situation was that low interest meant little was written on colonials (or was it the paucity of the literature that caused the low interest?). If you collected Connecticut coppers in the era of the late 1950's through the 1960's, your resources were few – indeed, your entire library might actually consist of just two books! The first would be the fountainhead of colonial numismatics, Sylvester Sage Crosby's 1875 work *The Early Coins of America*, which contained a long chapter on Connecticut coppers; this work had only a couple hundred original copies extant but luckily a reprint of the rare original had been issued by "R. Green" in 1945, which made the book affordable and obtainable to the average collector. The other book was Henry Miller's

1920 work *The State Coinage of Connecticut*, which originally appeared in *The American Journal of Numismatics* (Volume 53) and was shortly thereafter sold as an offprint, combined with Hillyer Ryder's works on Vermont and Massachusetts coppers (and the Additions & Corrections to those monographs). Early collectors would have needed either the original AJN volume or the offprint, both of which were already rare by the 1950's (indeed, the ANS librarian of the era reported that this offprint was the item most frequently stolen from the library, leading to a ban on overcoats and briefcases for a while). It wasn't until 1962 that the Connecticut coppers section was reprinted by itself, this done by Ovolon Publishing, the first printing firm started by Al Hoch, who would go on to produce more reprints under the familiar Quarterman Publications name.

If a collector had deep pockets (and a little luck), he may have doubled the size of his library, from two to four volumes. The first would be Dr. Thomas Hall's 1892 monograph, *A Descriptive List of the Coppers Issued by Authority, for the State of Connecticut, for the Year 1787*, (which was the uncredited basis of Miller's work, but contained no photographs and little information that wasn't present in the Miller monograph, so was not a "must-have" book...a good thing since only around a dozen original copies are thought to exist!). The other book was actually an auction catalogue, the sale of Henry Miller's personal collection by Thomas Elder in May 1920 (the ANS publication occurring shortly after Miller had passed away). The regular version of the Miller sale contained Elder's usual terse cataloguing – he once bragged that he could catalogue a thousand coins a day, and the end result certainly showed it, with little more than variety and grade given, though sometimes a qualifier like "rare" would be added if Elder was feeling especially chatty. But Elder also issued a very small number of catalogues with photographic plates – expensive at the time, and something that would have been presented to favored customers and libraries, with a few offered for sale at a price that "average" collectors of the day would not have been able to afford.

The Crosby and Miller works both made use of tables to describe the punctuation, ornamentation and bust styles, with written descriptions of individual varieties to help narrow down attribution, though both works had errors and omissions. Both books also contained photographs – but not many. Crosby illustrated just 24 varieties (23 on *Plate V*, 1 on *Plate VI*, with 44 individual coin images instead of the expected 48 since some of the obverse and reverse dies were paired with others and only one image of that single die was used with ligature lines showing how it paired with another); this number represents under 10% of the varieties that were known to Crosby. The Miller book contained photos of 64 varieties, as well as photos of 2 obverses without reverses (with 120 individual photographs instead of the expected 130, for the same reason as Crosby) – nearly triple what Crosby illustrated, but still just under 20% of the varieties known to Miller. The reason for this paucity of images is simple – economics. At the time these works were produced it required all the coins (or electrotypes of them, as was the case with Crosby's work) to be laid out and a photograph taken in a single shot on a glass negative – if one part was out of focus or not well lit, the entire negative was ruined. The glass negative would then be printed on special paper, separate from the printing of the pages of text, then collated and bound in – obviously a time-consuming and expensive process, and one

that made it impossible to photograph every variety in a series this large (which even then hovered around 350 varieties).

Incidentally, those few collectors fortunate to own a plated edition of the 1920 Elder sale of the Miller collection wouldn't have a whole lot more in the way of photographs of Connecticut coppers available either. Of the 28 plates in that edition, only 6 were colonials, only 2 of which contained Connecticut coppers, and only 50 of the Connecticut copper lots were plated – and in a typical Elder cost-saving fashion, he illustrated only one side of the coin (most often the obverse, but occasionally just the reverse) – which would have made the sale useless for attributing individual die varieties, though it could aid in the identification of a single die (and is useful enough for pedigree tracing today, of course, since you can match up one side and be sure that the other was along for the ride).

That tiny number of references in your working library would remain the same until the mid-1970's. A few auctions here and there had decent runs of Connecticut coppers, though few were ever plated (and they would need to be very rare or very choice to merit the expense); the only firms in the 1960's that would really make any effort at plating these were Stack's and New Netherlands Coin Co, both in New York. That changed a bit in the 1970's, most notably in 1975 when Pine Tree Auctions sold the Q. David Bowers collection mentioned earlier (although he was not named in the sale). This was the famous "EAC '75" auction, expertly catalogued by Walter Breen, who came up with a whole new way of classifying the series, although he still used the Miller numbers everyone had become used to, just presented in a different and more logical order. Instead of a terse couple of words to describe the coins, Breen was able to give a good-sized paragraph to each individual coin, with good physical descriptions of condition, but also with comments on rarity. In addition to this massive change in cataloguing style, the auction firm also made the wise decision to plate every variety and nearly every coin in the auction (the job originally went to Jack Collins who worked slowly but aimed for perfection – not something that worked with the time constraints of an auction company and the photography duties soon went to a staff member who completed the entire project in less time than it took Jack to just do the 1785's – but Jack's photos of the 1785's are so much better that one wishes he had been allowed to finish the job, even if it meant the sale wouldn't have happened until 1976 or 1977). Whereas the total number of photographs available in Crosby and Miller were small, in this one thin catalogue there were illustrated 354 varieties (358 if you include the mules that used a Vermont obverse and a Connecticut copper reverse), a few varieties illustrated in duplicate, and each variety shown with obverse and reverse – a total of 708 individual photographs (716 with the mules). Some 49 lots were not photographed, but those were all duplicates of varieties already plated.

This single auction catalog was, literally, the game changer for collecting this series. It gave more information than any other source and photographs of nearly all the varieties (of the few varieties that weren't in the sale, some shared an obverse and/or reverse die with other varieties that were illustrated, so the catalogue could still be used to attribute varieties that weren't necessarily included...and, of course, the few that weren't

photographed at all were so excessively rare that anyone stumbling upon one would have known immediately to buy it). The EAC '75 sale morphed from an auction catalogue to a stand-alone reference work; this writer fondly remembers carrying that catalogue and the Ovolon reprint of Miller to every coin show he went to – the catalogue long since having lost its covers, but still pressed into service. The importance of this work cannot be overemphasized – it was what really allowed collectors to finally be sure of the attribution of their coins; the Miller work could give you an idea of what it was in general (“Hmmm, Draped Bust Left, periods in the legend, looks like an Obverse 32 type”), and when you knew that you would compare it with everything of that type in the EAC '75 catalogue, one coin at a time if needed, until you had your match (the high quality of the Bowers coins making the job even easier).

The utility of the EAC '75 sale lasted well over a decade, until the 1987 auction of the Frederick Taylor collection by Bowers and Merena (even though Dave Bowers was still at the firm, he chose to catalogue the Vermont and New Jersey coppers himself, leaving the Connecticut to someone who had never looked at the series before – Michael Hodder, hitting a home run in his first time at bat!). The Taylor collection then became the new stand-alone work (a bonus in that it contained great runs of ALL state coinages, not just Connecticut coppers), though this writer continued to carry both it and the EAC '75 sale together well into the mid-1990's.

Now flash-forward to where we are today, firmly in the Digital Age. With a few clicks of a computer mouse we now have access to photographs of EVERY variety of Connecticut copper (thanks to the online photo archives offered by Stack's, Heritage and a few other sources – the 2005 sale of the John Ford collection of this series giving the collector access to the last few varieties that had remained unphotographed for the last century). Not only that, but we can often find multiple photos of varieties – even extremely rare ones. The collecting community is far more connected, and most collectors are willing to share details or photos of what they have. Photographs of coins are posted every day online in the various chat groups and on websites ranging from museums, private collections and dealers advertising their inventory; these images can usually be saved by collectors and/or accessed free of charge. The American Numismatic Society has also entered the Digital Age, and is photographing ALL the colonials in their extensive collections, making photographs of some varieties from each state coinage series available in each issue of *The Colonial Newsletter* (collectors can purchase specially-printed versions of the plates in better quality for a nominal fee).

In the not-too-distant future someone will come up with software that allows collectors to just photograph or scan a coin and actually have their computer attribute the piece for them, searching through an online database of images until it finds a match (the technology is more advanced than bar-code scanning, perhaps more similar to fingerprint matching though, of course, with a much smaller number of possible matches, so it is definitely possible). This might take some of the “Eureka” moments out of the hobby for the collector...but even when this technology arrives, I doubt many of us will be getting rid of our books, auction catalogues and magnifying glasses anytime soon.

To my mind, the difference between now and then is simply the availability of information and the ease and speed with which we can access it. Earlier collectors who did not have this functionality were at a disadvantage, of course, and that explains how a mistake in attribution could go unnoticed for the better part of half a century, the error compounded with several generations of collectors. The fact that all the known examples of this “non-variety” were struck on similar smaller planchets with slight off-centering that obscured the date certainly aided and abetted the error, of course, but when one only had access to a very brief description without the benefit of any photograph, it would be nearly impossible to catch the error – especially if one was looking in the wrong year completely.

We really are living through an amazing time in the history of collecting – massive archival and search functions available online, immediate sharing of digital photos with the click of a button, the ability to easily manipulate photos (including producing overlays to see if varieties match), desktop editing and publishing, print-on-demand technology...and the promise of more advances to come! Truly, “These Are the Good Old Days” (but I certainly wouldn’t mind being offered a roll of Connecticut coppers for 50 cents each).

AN INTERESTING “WHAT’S IT”

Editor: Dick August showed me the following coin that recently came into his collection. He asked if I had any idea what it is. I don’t. Clearly, the obverse is meant to represent New England as its legend is “MAS PLY RI NH CON” presumably for Massachusetts, Plymouth, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Connecticut; it is not clear what the central device represents. The reverse has “1686” at the center with “VI” below and “NEW ENGLAND” around from K7-K5 – clearly alluding to a value of 6d. The coin seems to be of good silver, and is the size of a Massachusetts sixpence. Dick believes he saw a similar piece several years ago, but thinks this may actually be that piece. Any ideas?



DEFIANT HEAD FAMILY OF CONTEMPORARY BRITISH COUNTERFEIT HALFPENCE

(John L (Jack). Howes)

INTRODUCTION: Following the link fingerprint methodology developed by Byron Weston (CNL 111), this paper defines another Family of related contemporary counterfeit British halfpence. This methodology defined three attributes that defined families of coins: die linking, punch linking and style links. Weston indicated that die links are the strongest indication of a family and style links are the weakest. For the Defiant Head family the importance of style linkage in relating specific coins to the Family is quite important probably. This family has all three of these linkages.

THE DEFIANT HEAD (DH) FAMILY: This family has a very distinctive appearance (style) on both obverse and reverse and the family can be recognized by sight with a little familiarity, since there is limited variation within the Family. The name for the family comes from the defiant look of George II. One key feature is the high rounded forehead. Two varieties of this family were included in "Forgotten Coins" (Anton-Kesse) and numbered AK 56 and 57. Anton-Kesse gave them a label of "Defiant Profile" from which the word "Defiant" has been also used in the new Family name. The reverse has a dumpy looking Britannia with head and neck out of proportion to the rest of her body. Britannia's head has a large nose and a peculiarly rounded forehead, somewhat like George's on the obverse – see Figure 1 below. Both the obverse and reverse seem to be caricatures of the regal types. Possibly this was intentional as the engravings are quite well done. All of the DH family members are dated between 1750 and 1752. No mules of this family to other non-DH types are known.

The Defiant Head family is a medium size family with 11 obverse dies, 12 reverse dies (three dated 1750, eight dated 1751, and one dated 1752). See the plates below. These coins are die linked extensively and there are currently seventeen (17) different varieties. No new dies or combinations have turned up in the last twelve months but over time it is likely a few more will surface. The obverses have been numbered using the Global Attribution Scheme (GAS) method developed by Clem Schettino and the counterfeit study group. The method calls for numbering obverses according to where George's nose aligns to the legend. Lower numbers mean lower alignment to the legend and higher numbers mean the converse. This allows you to tell by looking at an obverse whether it will be a low numbered one or a high numbered one. Reverse designations are by date and then, similar to the obverse GAS method, using branch hand to legend with highest letters having the branch hand pointing to the highest part of the legend.

Another thing to note about this family is the legend lettering. It is remarkably similar to the regal issues of the period but with differences. The dates use a virtually (if not) identical numeral one punch. The rest of the date is quite similar to regal dates – see Figure 3 below. In the legend the T and the S are both different while the E and X are

very similar. It's interesting to look at the similarity and differences in the E – see Figure 4 below.

The person who engraved these dies was talented. He may have been either a Royal Mint (RM) engraver moonlighting (dangerous) or an RM engraver who no longer worked at the Tower Mint. Another possibility is that a person trained by an RM engraver did the engraving. In any case the person who did this work was very skilled and could have as easily made very regal-like figures rather than the caricatures. The caricatures were intentional.

METROLOGY:

	Count	Mean	Median	Max	Min	Std
1750 Weight	11	129.8	129.6	141.4	121.7	6.06
Diameter	8	27.8	27.8	28.7	27.2	0.58
1751 Weight	24	117.3	116.4	135.1	106.5	7.77
Diameter	20	27.7	27.7	28.4	27.0	0.44
1752 Weight	4	126.7	130.0	133.2	113.7	8.86
Diameter	2	27.6	27.6	27.9	27.2	0.52
DH Weight	39	121.8	121.7	141.4	106.5	9.30
Diameter	30	27.7	27.8	28.7	27.0	0.47

The metrology of examples examined to date is tabulated in Figure 2 below. Not all examples have both weight and diameter. Several interesting observations jump out from the data. First, the 1751 dates are much lighter than either the 1750 or 1752. This may be an artifact of the small amount of data for the 1752 date but there is enough data to make the difference between 1750 and 1751 statistically significant. Another item to note is that the diameters for all three dates are very similar, essentially identical, including the variation of the data. This would mean that one possible explanation for the lower mean weight of 1751 dated coins could be that the sheets the coins were made from were thinner. This might make sense if the coiners found they were losing money on the 1750's and changed to a thinner material for the next batch but would not explain the 1752's if indeed they were made following the 1751's. Further conclusions on this point will have to wait for more data from 1752 dated examples to surface. Overall these coins are only slightly under weight and were not likely a big money maker for anyone involved.

NON DEFIANT HEAD COINS WITHIN THE DH DATE RANGE: Though many counterfeits with dates in the range of 1750 to 1753 are known, many have not been included in this family because they lack the two main defining characteristics, the high forehead on George and Britannia with a large head out of proportion to her body – see Appendix A for examples of counterfeits that are not considered part of this family.

Some of these may seem to the reader rather similar to the DH family but upon close examination each has been rejected for one or more reasons. None of these have the high forehead that is the main characteristic, although 51003RAM and 51002MCB are close to having this high rounded forehead but Britannia on each of these reverses does not have the caricature head. The two 1749s have considerable similarity stylistically but still lack the high rounded forehead. The legend lettering on 49002BKW is quite different from the DH family. Peck W and Ringo Lot 5824 are exceptionally well done counterfeits and while George has a pretty defiant look on both, the style is different. Britannia is almost snarling on Ringo 5824. The last two of the examples not part of this family are to show that there are counterfeits of these dates that have considerably different look and feel. The last example, Ringo 5813, is a variety that belongs to the Simian family.

DATE FOR MINTING OF THE DH FAMILY: For several reasons, this family of counterfeits is very likely to have been struck during the time indicated on the coins i.e., late 1750 to early 1752 when the coiner(s) were probably caught. Clearly these were made at some point during or after 1750, because it is extremely doubtful that a counterfeiter would create a coin with a future date on it.

The primary reasons I believe these were struck during the dates indicated are the following: (1) there are known casts of different varieties, (2) there are no mules with later dates, (3) the number of varieties by year has the feel of something that started in late 1750 (2nd fewest), continued all of 1751 (most dies) and stopped sometime during 1752 (fewest dies). Finally the die linkage pattern also seems telling. There is a die linkage of a 50 with a 51, 51 with a 52, but not a 50 with a 52. These facts as a whole present a strong case for this counterfeit family to have actually been struck as dated.

During the 1750's it was estimated that 50% of the coppers were counterfeit [Mossman page 117] and casting was still the mainline process for counterfeiting. A report from New York in 1753 indicated that a bag had been inspected containing 2880 halfpence and that 884 (30%) at least were sand cast counterfeits [Mossman page 117]. Sometime after the 1750's but by 1770's, casting had given way to engraved dies and screw presses as the primary process for producing counterfeits [Mossman page 120] – counterfeiting technology was becoming more sophisticated. So in the 1750's casting was still the primary method of counterfeiting, but counterfeiters were also beginning to exploit newer technology. It stands to reason that a smart counterfeiter who was casting in the 1750's would likely rather use lightweight struck counterfeits than full diameter and thickness regal coppers for the patterns.

Further, many of the struck counterfeits would likely have been shipped to the colonies where all counterfeiters were making casts. And it is at least plausible that some casts were made in America. . Whether the casts were made in America or in England it would have taken some time for the struck counterfeits to filter down to a low tech counterfeiter which would also lend some additional credence to this family having been struck during the early 1750's as casting was on its way out except in North America.

OLD BAILEY & ROYAL MINT INFORMATION: While it's unlikely anyone will ever know with any certainty the people who actually produced these counterfeits, it is possible to find details about counterfeiting during this period (1750's specifically). The trial records of the Old Bailey, online at www.oldbaileyonline.com are a fabulous source for a snapshot of the times. There are several well written background pieces and the verbatim transcriptions of trials plus the web site has recently added Ordinaries Accounts* associated with many trials. The trials and ordinaries accounts have much more detail than you might expect about the lives of ordinary people and there is also detail about non criminals like employees of the mint.

From the statistics engine at this site, you can summarize in various ways over 150 years worth of data on all criminal trials in London; e.g., during the 1700's there were 459 trials for coining offences (see Figure 5 below). Coining was considered a serious offence.** This is the category of offence that counterfeiting fell under. A fair percentage of these trials were for uttering (or as it was referred to in the period -- putting off) counterfeits. Furthermore, most of these trials were for the very serious offence of coining silver or gold. During the 1700's there were 49,397 total trials at the Old Bailey and coining represented slightly less than 1% of the "crime." In the decade of the 1750's there were 4,390 trials, 16 of which were for coining offences or 1/3 of 1%. So, coining was not a common crime and in the 1750's it was less common than during the 1700's as a whole. An example of these trials (see Appendix B for a verbatim account) refers at least partially to coining halfpence and we will comment on especially interesting points in it:

John Bell, was indicted for that he, not being employed in or for the mint in the tower of London, or elsewhere, had in his custody a press for coinage, contrived and resembling the presses for coinage in the tower of London, and this without any lawful authority , July 30 [1753] .

*Ordinaries accounts are biographies of the prisoners executed at Tyburn that were regularly published during the century following the inception of the Old Bailey Proceedings. One of the perquisites of the Ordinary's position was the right to publish an account of the prisoners' last dying speeches and behavior on the scaffold, together with stories of their lives and crimes.

** Clive Emsley, Tim Hitchcock and Robert Shoemaker, "Thief-Takers," Old Bailey Proceedings Online (www.oldbaileyonline.org, 3 Mar 2010). "Concern about high levels of crime in London in the late seventeenth century led the government to adopt the practice of offering substantial rewards for apprehending and convicting those guilty of specific serious crimes, such as highway robbery and coining. This practice expanded in the eighteenth century, and was supplemented by individual victims of crime who offered rewards for the return of their stolen goods. Both practices were facilitated by the development of daily newspapers in the early eighteenth century, which allowed information about such rewards to be widely advertised. The introduction of these financial rewards fundamentally altered the character of criminal justice in the metropolis."

This first point is that it was about this time that the production of Defiant Head counterfeits stopped. Could this have been the counterfeiter responsible for the Defiant Heads? It's a possibility but it seems unlikely as John Bell only had the press constructed about 6 months earlier. He would have had to have had dies engraved with dates of 1750, 51 and 52 and struck all the coins in 1753. It's also interesting that he is indicted for having a "press for coining money" without lawful authority. We were not aware this was an offence and it may not be as Bell was acquitted.

John Sandall. I am porter of the mint, and have been about nineteen years.

Q. Do you often see the coiners at work?

Sandall. I do often. On the 26th of July last I found some tools for coining at the house of Mrs. Bilson in Winchester-street. I had taken Mr. Bell the day before at one Mr. Elgar's, who was engraving a pair of dyes for him to make Lewidores; in searching the cellar which they told me was Mr. Bell's property, there I found a press fixed upon a block, as ours are in the mint, for coining. Every thing was fixed, but two springs, that lay ready to fix; it is of the very same kind as ours are, and to be pull'd in the same manner.

Q. Could it be used for coining?

Sandall. As I take it, it could; it only wanted the dyes to be fixed; they are made fast by four skrews. They are to be done in a very little time, the workmen shifting them as they see occasion; so that in the same manner sixpences, shillings, or a guinea, may be struck with that press. We have larger for crown pieces.

John Sandall [also spelled Sandell] is mentioned by Rogers Ruding as having this position. Sandall appears once before in the Old Bailey Proceedings about 20 years earlier when he first obtained this position (likely from a relative). One of his roles appears to have been investigating coiners. Above, he is asked if he often sees coiners at work. This is not a reference to Royal Mint coiners but rather counterfeiters and he answers that he often does see such activities.

Lewidores (sometimes the spelling varies) appears quite often in trials of coiners. It refers to the gold coins of France, the Louis d'Or.

You can see specialization in many aspects of this operation. Bell is having someone named Elgar engrave the dies. Someone else forged the die and would likely be the person to finish the die once it was engraved.

In the next excerpt Sandall finds counterfeit Deux-Sols and the dies for making these. This is reported to John Fielding. John Fielding and his brother Thomas Fielding (who had died recently) were two brothers who organized and created the modern British

police force. Thomas Fielding was also a famous author who wrote *Tom Jones* among other works.

Q. Did you find any thing else?

Sandall. ... In his escrutore, or bureau, which was in his bedchamber, as they called it, I found about 38 pieces of coin of different metals, and a pair of dyes to strike them with in a beaufet, or corner cupboard.

Q. What are they called?

Sandall. They are called deux-sols pieces; it is a French two-pence. Some of them were brass, some copper, whitened, and all representing the same French money. On the 28th I went with Mr. Cook, the solicitor of the mint, to look over the prisoner's writings;... I went with Mr. Bell before Justice Fielding, and he was committed, on the 26th; the 27th he was sent for to be re-examined, when he owned that all these things I have mention'd belonged to him. This was before Mr. John Fielding, the blind gentleman.

In the next section aspects of the press and further information about the deux-sols (these were counterfeits of the legal French coinage for the French territories in North America) are addressed. Sandall who investigates counterfeiting for the mint notes that he has seen only a very small number of presses. The technology was just beginning to appear outside the mint but would spread quickly in the button making trade and allow others to use it for illegal purposes.

Cross Examination.

Q. What are those two springs that were not put in?

Sandall. I know not the name; they are iron or steel springs.

Q. What is the use of them?

Sandall. As the fly is pull'd round, they are to help the fly to play up.

Q. How many presses did you ever see beside those in the mint and this?

Sandall. I have seen one in the hands of a tradesman, who engraves dyes, and makes buttons and such things.

Q. Do you do halfpence and farthings in the same press?

Sandall. We do; it is only changing the dye; it does not require so strong a weight to coin a shilling, or sixpence, as it does to coin a halfpenny, I suppose.

Q. Did he express what coin?

Sandall. No, he did not; he used the word coin.

Q. Was not the word deux-sols-piece mention'd?

Sandall. I don't remember that it was. I believe he said it was not intended to make any coin of this kingdom; he said they were to go to Canada, and that he was employed by a certain gentleman, whom he refused to name, and he was to have forty pounds every month.

Finally we see how Bell obtained the press and we hear about Mr. Yeo who was an engraver for the Royal Mint:

Robert M' Gill. I know the prisoner Mr. Bell; I live at Woolwich; he came to me there, and asked me if I could help him to a smith that could make a press for striking of medals; this was in June last; I said I could; so we went so a tavern; he asked me when I should be at London; I said the next day, to see the review in Hide-park.

Q. What is your business?

R. M' Gill. I am a smith; he desired me to come to his house, which I did; then I took him to Puddle-dock-hill, to a man I think named Wood; Mr. Bell told him that he wanted a press to strike some pieces of the same size with some that he shewed him.

Q. What sort of pieces?

R. M' Gill. They were copper pieces whitened, and a yellow piece about the bigness of a guinea; it had an impression on both sides; two round O's on one side, and the head of a man on the other. He shewed a yellow piece. They are such as this; the man said he could make one of that size for about twenty pounds; but they could not agree; so I asked him if he could direct us to see one any where; he said he had made one for forty pounds for one Mr. Yeo in Covent-garden, and he believed he would shew it me.

Q. What is that Mr. Yeo?

M' Gill. I have heard he is an engraver for the Mint in the Tower. Mr. Yeo strikes large medals, such as they make presents of at the universities,

bigger than a crown piece. I went and told my brother, that if Mr. Bell had one made, I would get him the job; so took my brother to Mr. Yeo's, and told him that a gentleman wanted a press made, and desired he would let him look at it; he showed us the press and all about it; then I went and carried Mr. Bell there, and he saw it; Mr. Yeo shewed him a great many pieces he had struck with it. Mr. Bell pulled his piece out of his pocket, and told him he would have some such cut; Mr. Yeo said he could not do it without acquainting the master of the Mint. Mr. Bell said he did not care who knew of it; so we parted; I went and saw the presses in the Tower after this. My brother and Mr. Bell met next day, and bargained to make a press; I think he was to give my brother twenty-five pounds.

Bell was found guilty but there appears to have been no punishment. Clearly about this time, striking counterfeits began to be feasible and probably profitable for a while. While it's a long shot that John Bell struck the DH family of counterfeits, it is possible that Mr. Elgar engraved the dies.

CONCLUSIONS: So, what can we conclude from this study of British counterfeits? They are generally well made and distinctive and they are only slightly underweight. There is reasonable evidence that they were struck in the 1750's rather than later during the heyday of British copper counterfeiting. Who knows, perhaps the engraving of George II on these counterfeits is more life-like than on the regal coins (See Figure Six for a contemporary portrait of the king.)

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Defiant Head Family Plates – Plate One



Plate copyright J.L. Howes. Photo Credits: 1-50A 5001CVS [Trudgen]; 4-50B 5001JLH [Howes]; 11-50C 5001MCR[Stacks]; 51B 5103CVS [Trudgen]; 51C 5104RAM [Moore]; 4-51D 5105CVS [Trudgen]; 6-52A 5202CVS[CVS?]; 10 5101MMM[MMM?]; 51H 51041DLP[Trudgen].

Defiant Head Family Plates – Plate Two



Plate copyright J.L. Howes. Photo Credits: 51A 51004JRR [Rock]; 2-51G 51027DLP [Trudgen] 8-51E 5102RAM [Moore]; 51F [Anton-Kesse]; 7 51XXXDLP [Trudgen]; 9 51010CVS[Trudgen], C7-51G 51024CVS [SGF].



Figure 1. Defining characteristics of Defiant Head Types



Figure 3. Date styles -- Defiant Head on left, Regals in the middle, non DH counterfeits in same date range from Appendix A

Weight	Diameter	Aligned	SG	Owner	Owner ID	Variety
132				Ringo	5806	11-50C
125.3				Ringo	5807	3-50A
125.2	27.7	180		Howes	50001JLH	5-50A
129.6	27.2	180		Schettino	5002CVS	1-50B
141.4				Stacks	2084	1-50B
129.6	28.6	180		Moore	5002RAM	3-50A
132.5	28.1	180		Moore	5004RAM	3-50A
119.9				Ringo	5808	4-51D
110.8	28	180		Foster	51002WEF	11-51B
121.1	27	180		Foster	51003WEF	4-51D
123	28.25	180		Foster	51004WEF	11-51C
120.4				Schettino	5103CVS	11-51B
115.7	27.4	175		Schettino	5105CVS	4-51D
118.8	27.7	185		Schettino	5107CVS	8-51E
121.9	27.2	180		Schettino	5110CVS	9-51A
134.3	28.4	180		Schettino	5112CVS	
106.5	27.2	180		Schettino	5124CVS	
118.7				Stacks	2085	11-51B
109				Stacks	2086	6-51D
121.8	27.8	180		Moore	5102RAM	8-51E
106.9	28.3	180		Moore	5104RAM	11-51C
112.5	28	180		Moore	5105RAM	2-51A
135.1	28	180		Moore	5106RAM	11-51B
117.1	27.5	180		Moore	5107RAM	6-51D
110.9	28.1	180		Moore	5111RAM	10-51D
115.6	28.2	180		Moore	5113RAM	2-51G
114.8	27.4	180		Moore	5114RAM	4-51D
108.8	27.3	180		Moore	5115RAM	6-51D
114.1	27.4	180		Moore	5116RAM	4-51D
131.2	27.9	180			5202CVS	6-52A
133.2				Ringo	5818	6-52A
128.8				Ringo	5819	6-52A
113.7	27.2	180		Moore	5207RAM	6-52A
98.4	26	180		Howes	C51001JLH	C9-51A

Figure 2. Defiant Head Metrology



Figure 4. Defiant Head versus Regal Legend Punch Comparison (Top two punches are regal and bottom three DH)

	Total	
Total	<u>459</u>	100%
1700s	<u>10</u>	2.18%
1710s	<u>26</u>	5.66%
1720s	<u>24</u>	5.23%
1730s	<u>22</u>	4.79%
1740s	<u>11</u>	2.4%
1750s	<u>16</u>	3.49%
1760s	<u>9</u>	1.96%
1770s	<u>72</u>	15.69%
1780s	<u>134</u>	29.19%
1790s	<u>135</u>	29.41%



Figure 5. Old Bailey Statistics on Coining Offences from 1700 to 1799



Figure 6. Contemporary Portrait of George the 2nd

Appendix A – Non-Defiant Head Counterfeits (with similar dates)



Appendix B – Old Bailey Case in Full

John Bell, Royal Offences > coining offences, 5th December 1753.

Reference Number: t17531205-65

Offence: Royal Offences > coining offences

Verdict: Guilty

Punishment: No Punishment

Related Material: Associated Records

User Wiki: Corrections; Add Information

See original

76. (L.) John Bell was indicted for that he, not being employed in or for the mint in the tower of London, or elsewhere, had in his custody a press for coinage, contrived and resembling the presses for coinage in the tower of London, and this without any lawful authority, July 30.

John Sandall. I am porter of the mint, and have been about nineteen years.

Q. Do you often see the coiners at work?

Sandall. I do often. On the 26th of July last I found some tools for coining at the house of Mrs. Bilson in Winchester-street. I had taken Mr. Bell the day before at one Mr. Elgar's, who was engraving a pair of dyes for him to make Lewidores; in searching the cellar which they told me was Mr. Bell's property, there I found a press fixed upon a block, as ours are in the mint, for coining. Every thing was fixed, but two springs, that lay ready to fix; it is of the very same kind as ours are, and to be pull'd in the same manner.

Q. Could it be used for coining?

Sandall. As I take it, it could; it only wanted the dyes to be fixed; they are made fast by four skrews. They are to be done in a very little time, the workmen shifting them as they see occasion; so that in the same manner sixpences, shillings, or a guinea, may be struck with that press. We have larger for crown pieces.

Q. Did you find any thing else?

Sandall. There stood by the press what is called a stake, to flat or beat any thing upon; there were also a hammer and a ladle to melt rosin with, but what the use of that was I don't know. Up in the garret, which they said was the prisoner's garret, I found a stove new built to a chimney with brick work, that would run down gold or silver without any blowing; there was likewise a table fix'd, with a wheel to turn with a foot, and a pair of sheers, with some tongs to take the crucibles out of the fire; there were two windows to the room. There was another table with some drawers on the other side the room, where I found a little long ladle to cast gold or silver in; in one of the drawers, or upon the table, was a file, and a touchstone, as I suppose, with two pair of tongs to grasp the crucibles two small crucibles to melt any thing in, either gold or silver, and a brass instrument, the use unknown to me then, (the workmen who made it will tell the use of it) with an iron flask, or case, to cast in. In his escutore, or bureau, which was in his bedchamber, as they called it, I found about 38 pieces of coin of different metals, and a pair of dyes to strike them with in a beaufet, or corner cupboard.

Q. What are they called?

Sandall. They are called deux-sols pieces; it is a French two-pence. Some of them were brass, some copper, whitened, and all representing the same French money. On the 28th I went with Mr. Cook, the solicitor of the mint, to look over the prisoner's writings; in the drawers there was a piece of metal weighing about six-pennyweight, which, upon the trial of it, proved gold, worse than standard five carats two grains; I had it tried by our assay-master, and was worth about 2 l. 18 s. by the shape of it it was cast in that little ladle which I found in the room where the fire-place was; it seemed to be part of

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a larger piece cut or broke off. I went with Mr. Bell before Justice Fielding, and he was committed, on the 26th; the 27th he was sent for to be re-examined, when he owned that all these things I have mention'd belonged to him. This was before Mr. John Fielding, the blind gentleman.

Q. Did he say all?

Sandall. I can't say he said the word all; but the press and things which were found in that house were mentioned.

Q. Did he own the press?

Sandall. He said the press was his press, and the other were his things.

Q. Did he say the place where they were found was his lodgings?

Sandall. He did.

Q. Whether at the mint the same press is made use of both for shillings and guineas?

Sandall. Yes, it is; it is only shifting the dye.

Cross Examination.

Q. What are those two springs that were not put in?

Sandall. I know not the name; they are iron or steel springs.

Q. What is the use of them?

Sandall. As the fly is pull'd round, they are to help the fly to play up.

Q. Did you ever see a press used in the mint for coinage without those springs?

Sandall. No, I never did.

Q. If a press is unfinished, do you call that a press?

Sandall. I should take this to be a press; there were the springs ready to fix; it was finished, and they might be put in as soon as the question might be asked.

Q. Can the skrew of the press be taken out and soon put in again?

Sandall. No, Sir.

Q. Suppose you see a watch without the pendulum, would you call that a watch?

Sandall. I never saw a pendulum.

Q. Could you work the press in the condition you saw it?

Sandall. No, because the springs were not fixed; but the moniers know better than I do.

Q. How many presses did you ever see beside those in the mint and this?

Sandall. I have seen one in the hands of a tradesman, who engraves dyes, and makes buttons and such things.

Q. Are those presses that are made for watch keys, cane heads, and such things, made in the same method as those in the tower?

Sandall. I never saw any of them.

Q. Could this be made use of in making metal buttons?

Sandall. It might.

Q. Do you do halfpence and farthings in the same press?

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Sandall. We do; it is only changing the dye; it does not require so strong a weight to coin a shilling, or sixpence, as it does to coin a halfpenny, I suppose.

Q. Could this press be made to coin a shilling?

Sandall. I am sure it would coin a shilling, or deux sols piece.

Q. Have you ever seen the head of a cane taken off?

Sandall. I have.

Q. Is there not rosin in it?

Sandall. There is.

Q. Did the prisoner say what use he made of these things?

Sandall. He told the justice they were to make medals and coin.

Q. Did he express what coin?

Sandall. No, he did not; he used the word coin.

Q. Was not the word deux-sols-piece mention'd?

Sandall. I don't remember that it was. I believe he said it was not intended to make any coin of this kingdom; he said they were to go to Canada, and that he was employed by a certain gentleman, whom he refused to name, and he was to have forty pounds every month.

Q. Did he mention any thing else beside medals and coin?

Sandall. I believe he mention'd buttons, medals and coin.

Q. from prisoner. Did not I tell you where you might find the press?

Sandall. He did; he said he had a press in his house.

William Hankins . I am one of the moniers in the mint.

Q. What is a monier?

W. Hankins. That is one that makes the money. I saw the press that Mr. Sandall found in Winchester-street, it is a proper press for coinage.

Q. Were the springs in it?

W. Hankins. No, they were not when brought to the Tower.

Q. How long time does it take to fix them in?

W. Hankins. They are put in in a minute.

Q. Is it like those you use in the Tower?

W. Hankins. It is just such a one as we use for sixpences, shillings, half-guineas and guineas.

Q. Could you make use of this in coining money the same as with those at the Tower ?

W. Hankins. We could, but not so expeditiously as with our own.

Q. What is the use of the springs?

W. Hankins. The use is to lift up the box after the piece is struck.

Cross Examination.

Q. How many other presses have you ever seen besides those in the Tower?

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W. Hankins. I never saw any in my life besides this and those in the Mint.

Q. Could you have coined guineas with this press if the springs were not in?

W. Hankins. We could, may be one in an hour.

Q. Was there any leather on the fly of this press ?

W. Hankins. No.

Q. Are there not leathers on the fly of your presses when they are worked?

W. Hankins. There are.

Q. Is this as big a press as yours in the Mint?

W. Hankins. No, it is not as some are; it is about the middle size.

Q. Could this be used to coin any base mettle, either halfpence, farthings, or deux sols pieces?

W. Hankins. Yes, it might.

Q. Would this coin a medal?

W. Hankins. It would.

Q. Could the press be worked without the leather?

W. Hankins. We could strike a single piece.

Council for Crown.

To Mr. Sandall. Did you see any leather when you found the press?

Sandall. I believe I saw none; there was the iron fixed to the press to pull with, there was a piece of cord fixed to one end, and a cord will do as well as leather.

Q. to Hankins. Is it necessary to have the leathers on when it is not working?

Hankins. When it is not worked neither cord nor leather is necessary, but when they work it they put them on; we can strike some money with only the push of it without a man standing to pull it.

Q. What money is that?

Hankins. Pennies.

Q. Is a press the same without the leathers?

Hankins. The press is the same without them.

Q. Was the fly fixed?

Hankins. It was, ready for work.

William Vanderesck . I am one of the moniers.

Q. Have you seen the press Mr. Sandall found in Winchester-street?

W. Vanderesck. I have; it appears to me to be a proper press for coinage; I cannot say I examined it thoroughly, but it is proper for any piece not bigger than a shilling or a guinea, it is not big enough for crowns or half-crowns.

Q. Were the springs on when you saw it?

W. Vanderesck. No they were not.

C4 Newsletter

Q. Can it be used without the springs?

W. Vanderesck. It may be one piece or so, without the springs.

Cross Examination.

Q. Did you ever see such a press in tradesmen's hands?

W. Vanderesck. No, I never did.

Robert M' Gill. I know the prisoner Mr. Bell; I live at Woolwich; he came to me there, and asked me if I could help him to a smith that could make a press for striking of medals; this was in June last; I said I could; so we went so a tavern; he asked me when I should be at London; I said the next day, to see the review in Hide-park.

Q. What is your business?

R. M' Gill. I am a smith; he desired me to come to his house, which I did; then I took him to Puddledock-hill, to a man I think named Wood; Mr. Bell told him that he wanted a press to strike some pieces of the same size with some that he shewed him.

Q. What sort of pieces?

R. M' Gill. They were copper pieces whitened, and a yellow piece about the bigness of a guinea; it had an impression on both sides; two round O's on one side, and the head of a man on the other. He is shewed a yellow piece. They are such as this; the man said he could make one of that size for about twenty pounds; but they could not agree; so I asked him if he could direct us to see one any where; he said he had made one for forty pounds for one Mr. Yeo in Covent-garden, and he believed he would shew it me.

Q. What is that Mr. Yeo?

M' Gill. I have heard he is an engraver for the Mint in the Tower. Mr. Yeo strikes large medals, such as they make presents of at the universities, bigger than a crown piece. I went and told my brother, that if Mr. Bell had one made, I would get him the job; so took my brother to Mr. Yeo's, and told him that a gentleman wanted a press made, and desired he would let him look at it; he showed us the press and all about it; then I went and carried Mr. Bell there, and he saw it; Mr. Yeo shewed him a great many pieces he had struck with it. Mr. Bell pulled his piece out of his pocket, and told him he would have some such cut; Mr. Yeo said he could not do it without acquainting the master of the Mint. Mr. Bell said he did not care who knew of it; so we parted; I went and saw the presses in the Tower after this. My brother and Mr. Bell met next day, and bargained to make a press; I think he was to give my brother twenty-five pounds.

Cross Examination.

Q. Did Mr. Bell come to you in a publick manner?

M' Gill. He did; he did not whisper, or in-join me to keep it a secret. We went in at a publick house, and talked about it the next day; he made no secret of it.

Q. What did he say he wanted it for?

M' Gill. He said he would do buttons, cane-heads, nails, and watches.

Q. Did you think there was any harm in what you were about?

M' Gill. No, I did not think there was.

Council for Crown.

Did you ever see any cane heads of his striking?

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M' Gill. No.

Q. Or metal buttons?

M' Gill. No.

Q. Did Mr. Bell say he wanted a press for striking small coin as well as medals?

M' Gill. I cannot say that; I think he said he wanted a press to strike those things he shewed.

Q. Do you take that yellow piece to be gold or brass?

M' Gill. It appears to me to be gold. He told me there was a settlement at Canada, near Nova-Scotia; and he was to make some medals for that place.

Q. What did he mean by medals?

M' Gill. I think he said medals.

Q. from prisoner's council. Are you sure that this piece you have been shewn is the very same piece he shewed to Yeo?

M' Gill. It is like it; but I never read the inscription round it.

Q. What is Mr. Bell's trade?

M' Gill. He was brought up a gentleman as far as I know.

Council for Crown.

Had you ever been in his company before he came to you at Woolwich ?

M' Gill. I had; but we were not very much acquainted.

Q. Is he a button-maker?

M' Gill. No, not as I know of.

Q. Is he a cane-head maker?

M' Gill. No.

Q. Is he a dealer in brass?

M' Gill. I cannot tell.

Nenien M' Gill. My brother the left witness

Q. When was this?

N. M' Gill. It was in June, on the same day that the review was in Hide-park; he shewed me a piece of coin, and a pair of dyes made to it; I did not then know what it was; they call it a Louis-d'or. He is shewn the yellow piece of coin. It was such a piece as this.

Q. to Sandall. Look at that piece; where had you it?

Sandall. This is the same piece that the dyes were to have been engraven by, and I have the dyes here.

N. M' Gill. Bell said it was to make such pieces as those. I went to Mr. Yeo's in Covent-garden to see that press; after that I went to the Tower two or three times to see them. When the press was made I carried it home; I was to have ten guineas advance, and have got about 7. Afterwards Mr. Bell said that as soon as it was ready he was to work it.

Q. Who advised you to go to the Tower?

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N. M' Gill. My brother; he had seen them before.

Q. When did you carry it home ?

N. M' Gill. I cannot tell the day. I forged a pair of dyes by his direction, and carried them to the engraver; but they were never made.

Mr. Sandall produced a pair of dyes not finished.

N. M' Gill. These are them which I forged by Mr. Bell's orders; the Louis-d'ors were given to me by him, in order for the size of them.

Q. Do you know of any gold being melted?

N. M' Gill. Yes, there was some gold melted by order of Mr. Bell, to be struck by those dyes; but we made no trial, they not being finished.

Q. What gold did you melt?

N. M' Gill. Mr. Bell and I together melted thirty-six shilling pieces.

Q. Was there any order given to work this secretly?

N. M' Gill. There was none; he said he did not care who saw it; only in case any body should see it and take the trade out of his hands, then he should be a loser by it.

Q. Did he mean the Louis-d'or?

N. M' Gill. That found out one Mr. Elgar an engraver; Mr. Bell ordered me to get the dyes engraved as the other. I went with my fellow-servant to Mr. Elgar, and we agreed for a guinea and a half; then my fellow-servant took me to a flatter's, where the gold was to be rolled; I took it there by Mr. Bell's order.

Q. What was that to make?

N. M' Gill. It was to make such pieces as these, meaning the yellow pieces produced.

Q. to Sandall. Describe the nature of making guineas, and from what.

Sandall. It is necessary we should have the gold flatted out of the bar, to be worked to the size that the piece of money is to be of.

Council for Prisoner.

Did you ever see a press like this in the custody of a tradesman?

Sandall. I saw a press something like this in the hands of an engraver, who engraves dyes to strike buttons with; but I did not examine it.

For the prisoner.

John Daubin I have known the prisoner about eleven months; he sent some Birmingham ware to me, consisting of snuffers, corkscrews. &c.

Q. When was this?

Daubin. It was in June.

Q. Were they of his own making?

Daubin. I don't know that they were: there was one cane head, I cannot say what it was made of, whether gold or pinchbeck.

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Q. Can you tell who made it?

Daubin. No, I cannot, indeed.

Q. Can you tell whether he made it?

Daubin. I don't know, it is concluded Birmingham ware.

Q. When was this?

Daubin. About eleven months ago.

Q. Did you ever know he was any trade?

Daubin. I never knew he was.

Q. Have you seen him many times since you first knew him?

Daubin. Very often, I have been at his lodgings.

Q. Did you see any press?

Daubin. No, I never did.

Cross Examination.

Q Bell, when he dealt with you, as a person that was setting up to make Birmingham goods?

Daubin. That I did, and understood that he was to go on with Birmingham ware, to make snuff-boxes, or any thing of that ware.

Q. What were your reasons for it?

Daubin. Because he told me so.

Q. Have you any other reasons beside that?

Daubin. No, I have not.

Mary Daubin . I am wife to the last witness, I know the prisoner, and have known him about eleven months.

Q. Do you know of any trade he was carrying on?

M. Daubin. I bought some things of him in the Birmingham way, as snuffers, a corkscrew, and buckles; he shewed me a sample of some cane heads.

Q. Can you tell any otherwise than what he told you, that he made them?

M. Daubin. I do not know.

Henry Phillips . I work in watch chains and buttons.

Q. How are they made?

Phillips. In different kinds.

Q. Did you ever see any press used for that purpose?

Phillips. Yes, I have, but I never had one.

Q. What are they used for?

Phillips. In the jewelling way, and for buttons.

Q. What sort of presses are they?

C4 Newsletter

Phillips. They seem to be the same as those in the Tower, to the best of my knowledge, though I have not seen them in the Tower for 20 years.

Calverley Pinkney. I have seen all the various presses that are used in the mint; and have also seen several in tradesmen's shops they are the same sort with those in the mint.

Q. What trades are they commonly used for?

Pinkney. They are us'd for striking the bows for watch keys, and for watch chains, and for the metal pieces for the dial plates of watches, for cane heads, buttons, and divers other things.

Q. Does the press make only a flat impression?

Pinkney. There are dyes prepared of divers forts, there is two of them, the one concave and the other convex, and the swiftness of the to the impression, and the spring gives the rebound; the quicker the blow the neater the impression; and it requires a press of the same force with those in the Tower to make the work neat.

Cross Examination.

Q. Will the presses you have seen coin money?

Pinkney. According to their size they will coin all sorts of money.

Guilty

By consent of the Attorney-General, and the Counsels for the prisoner, the judgment was respited till after the opinion of the twelve Judges .

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AN UNLISTED VERNON MEDAL

(Charlie Wallace)

At the ANA Convention in Boston last August, I bought the new Adams book on Vernon Medals from my favorite book dealer, Charlie Davis. I have 33 Vernon medals in my collection and the book is an excellent reference and it was very easy for me to identify my own pieces. To my surprise, when I got to the section with Vernon and a kneeling Don Bass, I had two pieces from the same pair of dies (PBv1-3B). But one of my medals has the obverse die altered with a raised line under the complete legend; it is struck on what appears to be copper planchet as it is a dark brown color, also its diameter is just under 37 mm.

My second example is exactly as listed in the Adams book as PBv1-3B and 38mm. It is double struck on a pinchback or brass planchet. It's worth noting that the early use of the die is pictured on the dust cover of the Adams book.



New variety with lines under the legend on the obverse



Existing PBv1-3B without lines under the obverse legend

****THE SPANISH-AMERICAN CORNER****

A TRIAL STRIKE OF A COUNTERFEIT SPANISH DOLLAR: CALBETO 1900

(Marcus Mayhugh)

I recently purchased an interesting item on eBay which ties in with my collection of counterfeit 8 reales. The piece is unusual in that it appears to be a trial strike of an 1813 counterfeit Spanish dollar.

The planchet is large, thick, and heavy, weighing nearly 2 ounces. It is composed of some sort of white metal, perhaps lead or pewter, and bears the impression of a counterfeit 8 reales coin. The edges of the item are rough, squared off at irregular intervals. There is also damage to the obverse where a huge chunk of the planchet is missing.

That the impression is one of a counterfeit is confirmed by the fact that the King's portrait is that of Carlos III, and not Ferdinand VII. Charles the fourth had abdicated by 1808, and any coin dated 1813 would bear the portrait of Ferdinand, the reigning King at that time. The Spanish mint officials were sticklers for perfection, and would never have made this mistake, although a forger, looking to turn a buck, could have. Further confirmation of the bogus status of the piece is the use of the assayers initials JP, on a coin bearing the Mexico City mintmark. In 1813, the initials on a Mexico City 8 reales would have been HJ; however, the assayers initials JP would have been correct for a Potosi issued Spanish dollar. Perhaps when the forger was preparing his die he was using two separate coins for comparison and somehow got confused. Such an error would have made little difference to the counterfeiter, who would have likely been more concerned with correct metal composition, and a believable likeness on his wares.

Since this rather strange object is obviously some sort of test piece, the next question that naturally comes to mind asks, "is there a known counterfeit die which matches this trial piece?" The first place I always look for 8 reales forgeries is in Calbeto de Grau's *Compendio de las Piezas De Ocho Reales*, for contained in the back of Volume 2 is a section which plates many falsifications. I was not disappointed, and soon found an 1813 counterfeit with the assayer's mark of JP. Though the photos are rather poor, the image looks very much like the test piece. Much to my delight, a check mark was penciled in beside the image. This indicates that I own a similar coin!

Finding an image of my coin didn't take very long, and a comparison among the two pieces and the Calbeto plate began. Being the unabashed coin nerd that I am, I was very excited to believe I may actually have linked a known counterfeit with the forger's trial piece that tested his dies. I mean, how many false dies can exist that have the very same date, with the identical wrong king, with the same misattributed assayer's initials? My enthusiasm was quickly tempered as I examined the images. The alleged trial piece seemed to have much smaller, finer, and thinner features, although major components appeared to be in the correct position; that is the bow ribbons, position of the date, pillars,

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and letters all looked to line up correctly. I made several observations and have tentatively come to the conclusion that the trial piece and the actual counterfeit are very similar, if not for the size issues. My thoughts are that perhaps the metal composition might have something to do with the way the lettering and other devices appeared after the die struck them. I also have no idea why the large chunk is missing from the trial piece.

In the end, I believe that both of these 1813 pieces were struck by the same dies. I would be open to, and would appreciate, any opinions others might have. (Figure 1)



Figure 1. Obverse and reverse of the trial (left) and counterfeit (right) 8 reales coins

HALFPENCE HOARD - FOUND IN PENNSAUKEN, NJ

(Roger A. Moore, MD and Bruce P. Kesse)

"I bought a hoard of low grade halfpence on eBay last week," Bruce Kesse told me during a telephone conversation last year. He went on to say, "The seller told me that the coins were found in a piggy bank in the wall of a very old house in Pennsauken, New Jersey, when the house was being remodeled. When it arrived I was quite surprised to see what the hoard contained, and I'd love to get your take on it, Roger." After preliminary discussion, including a good chuckle together over the classic "found in a piggy bank in the wall of a farmhouse" provenance, we both realized that this "Pennsauken Hoard" might in fact provide a very interesting window into the past.

Most coin collectors are treasure hunters at heart; and being able to find rare or undiscovered varieties is one of the greatest surges of adrenalin that we can get. Many colonial coin collectors are also metal detectorists for the same reason – hoping to come across that rare coin buried for over 200 years. That is not to diminish the intense interest in history that is also a key motivator for most of us involved in colonial numismatic study. However, the dream for many of us is to come across that once-in-a-lifetime cache of coins, safely sealed away hundreds of years ago that have remained in pristine condition. Therefore, the word "hoard" instantly conjures up images of untold wonders, and fantasies of incredible new discoveries. When Bruce mentioned "hoard," my immediate reaction was the usual surge of adrenalin, as I contemplated what it might contain; and we agreed the hoard needed to be kept intact until photographic and metrological documentation could be gathered and analyzed. The results of that analysis are the topic of this article.

As you will see upon viewing the plates, the Pennsauken Hoard is not the typical collection of coins one dreams of acquiring. In consideration of the types of hoards that are found, the most common seem to be groups of coins removed from circulation by the hoarder and hidden for future use – such as in the case of Roman soldiers burying their wealth before going into battle, expecting to later retrieve the cache upon a successful outcome! The fact that a hoard remained intact was either a result of the hoarder forgetting where he had hidden the coins, or due to his inability to retrieve the hoard for some reason. A second type of hoard would be that specifically picked or "collected" by the hoarder for any number of purposes. Once again, lack of retrieval at a later date would indicate the hoarder was indisposed for some reason. I would propose that a third type is represented by the Pennsauken Hoard: coins taken out of circulation specifically due to their lack of value, or public acceptance, or in compliance with local counterfeiting laws, and put aside as useless only to be forgotten in the passage of time.

OVERVIEW OF THE PENNSAUKEN HOARD

In examining the contents of the Pennsauken Hoard, one is immediately reminded of a basic tenant of the production, passage and acceptance of light-weight and counterfeit coppers of inferior manufacture: that their 'value' was derived from utility as

a medium of exchange in a landscape lacking legitimate 'small change,' versus any sort of intrinsic value. Throughout North America during the colonial and pre-Federal periods, and in fact well into the Federal period,¹ a variety of items served in the place of legitimate weight Regal coinage out of necessity,^{2, 3} and included everything from wampum and playing cards to buttons, tokens and small coins from around the world.

In short, the passage and acceptance as currency by the inhabitants of Pennsauken, New Jersey, of the likes of this hoard was not out of *ignorance*, but rather out of *necessity and convenience*. One can't help but draw an analogy to our money today in the United States; our paper currency is not backed by gold or silver, and even our pennies (oops, I mean *cents*) are no longer made of copper. In fact, it has virtually no intrinsic value; and as individuals, we are only willing to accept U.S. money in payment for goods and services because we believe that other individuals will in turn accept it as payment from us!

Upon only the most cursory examination of the Pennsauken Hoard, the observer is struck with a trilogy of impressions:

- It appears to be an accumulation of old metal slugs and worn out 'coppers' generally the size of Regal halfpence. The group is completely lacking in visual 'curb appeal'!!
- As suggested by generally uniform 'fabric' and patination, the contents have been together in the same environment for a very long period of time... 150 to 200 years is easily conceivable. It is noteworthy that none of the coins are 'grounders' -- buried coins that have been dug up.
- A very high proportion of the coins seem to be cast, and many are damaged -- seemingly intentionally.

These impressions are almost immediately replaced with the WHYs and WHATs; why are they together, and what's so special about them to have remained together for so long -- or perhaps *un-special*, helping them to stay 'below the radar' through the centuries? Why would a group of seemingly worthless slugs have been secreted away in the wall of a house, suggesting value? And why in a 'piggy bank' as stated by the eBay seller (who, incidentally, is not a coin collector or dealer); wouldn't a vessel such as a jar be more fitting? Though it would be of value to have definitive answers to each of these questions, at best we can only speculate as to the true intent behind the whys and whats of the Pennsauken Hoard.

The Pennsauken Hoard consists of a large number of specimens, 89 in all, which are outlined in Table 1. Following are the descriptive details of the hoard's contents, segregated by type.

BLANK PLANCHETS - 24 of the coins are so worn that the original variety of the coin cannot be determined. Of these, 9 are thought to be cast planchets, though the differentiation of a cast from simply a struck planchet with environmental damage is problematic (see the section on CASTS below). Additionally, 9 of the blank planchets are bent, and 6 either holed or mutilated. Only seven of the 24 blank planchets are not holed, defaced, bent or thought to be cast. The average weight of these planchets is 99.5 grains (range 57.4 to 131.8 grains), which is well below the weight range of Regal halfpence. The average diameter is 27.9 mm. (within a range of 26 to 29.6 mm). Finally, the average specific gravity is 8.5 u (range of 8.0 to 8.7 u). (see Plate 1, image #1, depicting coin #10)

WILLIAM III ENGLISH – 6 of the coins in the hoard are discernable as William III halfpence. Regal William III halfpence were minted between 1695 and 1701, with the distinctive obverse inscription of GVLIELMVS TERTIVS (Latin for William the Third) with the King's image facing right. On the reverse is a seated Britannia facing left with the inscription BRITANNIA. Typically, Regal coinage under William's reign weighs between 137.3 to 177.5 grains, with a diameter of 28 to 29 millimeters. However, his coinage was heavily counterfeited using casting techniques, as indicated by the coins metal detected during the construction of Route 95 through Philadelphia. None of the six coins in the Pennsauken Hoard attributed to William III had discernable dates. The average weight of these 6 coins was only 123.5 grains (with a range of 116.6 to 135.4 grains), and an average diameter of 28 millimeters (range of 26.8 to 28.9 mm). Average specific gravity was 8.5 u (range of 8 to 8.7 u). All the coins are very worn, which may account for at least some of the underweight and undersize aspects of these coins compared to their Regal counterparts. However, three of the coins do not ring when struck, and two are judged visually to be casts. (see Plate 1, image #2, showing coin #26)

GEORGE I ENGLISH – Two varieties of Regal coinage were issued under George I. Between 1717 and 1718 the so-called "dump" halfpence were minted, which weighed between 145.1 and 162 grains and measured between 25 and 27 mm. These coins were relatively thick and small in diameter. Between 1719 and 1724 the diameter was increased to between 26 and 29 mm, and the coin became thinner resulting in the same weight as the "dump" issue. The obverse had George I facing right with the legend GEORGIVS REX, and a left-facing, seated Britannia on the reverse with the legend BRITANNIA. In the Pennsauken Hoard there was a single coin representing the George I coinage with a weight of 111.7 grains, a diameter of 26.5 mm. and a specific gravity of 8.6 u. The coin has the first two numbers of the date visible. It has the appearance of a cast, and does not ring when struck. The smaller size and weight of the coin might indicate that the date could be in the "dump" issue period, but all bets are off if it is a cast, which are also typically underweight. (see Plate 1, image #3, depicting coin #31)

GEORGE II ENGLISH YOUNG BUST TYPE – Between 1729 and 1739 Regal halfpence of King George II were produced bearing the effigy of the King as a young man. His bust on the obverse faces left, and the legend reads GEORGIVS II REX; while the reverse has the typical seated Britannia facing left with the legend BRITANNIA. Regal George II halfpence weigh between 149.6 and 160 grains. with a diameter of 28 to

30 mm. In the Pennsauken Hoard there were 19 coins identified as George II young bust types. The average weight of these 19 coins was 105.4 grains (range of 68.3 to 130.7 grains), the average diameter was 28 mm (range of 26.8 to 29.2 mm), and the average specific gravity was 8.4 u (range 6.5 to 8.9 u). From visually inspection, 11 of the 19 coins were thought to be casts, and 12 of the 19 coins do not ring when struck. Of the 19, 7 coins were bent and one was holed. The very low average weight of this hoard segment compared to the expected weight of Regal coins lends further credence to many of these being cast, further supported by the low average specific gravities encountered. Mossman and Smith³ point out that casting was a frequent method used to make George II counterfeit coppers and the proportion of cast compared to struck counterfeits was higher in the Young bust coinage compared to the Mature bust. Similarly there was a further drop in use of the casting technique when the 1770-1775 counterfeits were produced. Coin #48, shown in Plate 1, image #4, has an incredibly low specific gravity of only 6.5 u, and is judged to be a cast based both on visual attributes as well as the "ring test." The best preserved specimen in this group is coin #40 which is depicted in Plate 1, image #5. This is one of the few coins showing a full date.

GEORGE II ENGLISH MATURE BUST TYPE – In 1740, George II's effigy evolved from a young looking to a more mature appearance. In the Pennsauken Hoard, there are 9 coins that appear to be of the mature bust variety. Their average weight is 101.6 grains (range 59.6 to 117.6 grains), average diameter is 27.5 mm (range 27.3 to 28.9 mm), and average specific gravity is 8.3 u (range of 6.7 to 9.1 u). Of the 9, 4 are visually judged to be casts, while 3 of the 9 have no ring. One coin is bent, and one is holed. Of great interest and rarity, one specimen in this segment of the hoard (coin #59 shown in Plate 1, image #6) has a hand-applied (and with greatest skill I have ever encountered) obliquely-reeded edge, added post-strike or post-cast, as the case may be. Such reeding is encountered in perhaps as few as 1-in-1000 specimens, and is often – but not always – used as a method to conceal the file-marks created when removing protruding casting ports/gates. Coin #53 as shown in Plate 1, image #7 is clearly a cast specimen based on weight, specific gravity, visual inspection and specific gravity; note the casting ports at 5 and 11 o'clock when viewing the obverse.

GEORGE II IRISH – Of the hoard, 3 are attributed as George II Irish issues with the typical harp reverse. The average weight of these coins is 93.6 grains (with a range 81.1 to 112.2 grains), average diameter is 27.2 mm (range 27.1 to 27.5 mm) and the average specific gravity is 8.6 u (range 8.1 to 8.8 u). One coin is thought to be cast based on visual attributes, and 2 of the 3 do not ring. The probable-cast specimen is also bent, and the other coin that did not ring is holed. (see Plate 1, image #8 which depicts coin #62).

GEORGE III ENGLISH – The Regal halfpence coinage minted under King George III occurred between 1770 and 1775. This coinage had the right-facing image of the King on the obverse with the legend GEORGIUS III REX. The typical seated Britannia facing left occurs on the reverse, with the legend BRITANNIA. Weights of the Regal coinage are found between 142 and 167 grains, with diameters between 20 and 30 mm. The Pennsauken Hoard contained 16 specimens of this type. The average weight of these coins is 88.7 grains (in a range of 70.2 to 112.1 grains), average diameter is 27.6 mm

(range 26.6 to 28.7 mm) and the average specific gravity is 8.5 u (range 7.9 to 8.8 u). Of these 16 coins, 6 were judged to be probable casts visually, 8 coins did not ring, 5 coins were bent, and two were holed. Partial or complete dates are evident on 6 of these coins, which is a much higher proportion than any other type found in the hoard. A representative coin from this group is shown in Plate 2, image #1 which depicts coin #77. This coin also seems to be a counterfeit halfpenny belonging to the Aging George Family. Other coins in this grouping can also be tentatively identified as members of various counterfeit halfpence Families.

GEORGE III IRISH – Of the hoard coins, 5 are of the George III Irish type with the harp on the reverse. The average weight of these coins is 95.3 grains (range 78.9 to 101 grains), average diameter is 27.5 mm (range 27.7 to 27.9 mm) and the average specific gravity is 8.8 u (8.5 to 9.3 u). Of the 5 coins, 3 are visually thought to be casts, and two do not ring. One is bent. None of these specimens have discernable dates. A representative example from this group is shown in Plate 2, image #2 which is coin #82.

MISCELLANEOUS – The final 6 coins in the Pennsauken Hoard do not fall into the above groups. They include:

1. A Machin Mills halfpenny (coin #84) which has an obverse Vlack 13, but a reverse that is not identifiable (see Plate 2, image #3),
2. Coin #85 is an example of the State Coinage of Connecticut and this specimen has been defaced. (see Plate 2, image #4)
3. Coin #86 (see Plate 2, image #5) has not been identified, but is thought to be possibly either a Connecticut State copper or a Nova Eborac.
4. Coin #87 is a later King George III issue that occurred in 1806 or 1807 which has been bent (see Plate 2, image #6).
5. Coin #88 seems to be a U.S. Flowing hair cent but it seems to have been flattened and cut down; see Plate 2, image #7.
6. Finally, coin #89 is holed and is likely to be a button (see Plate 2, image #8).

CAST VERSUS STRUCK:

In total, 36 coins in the Pennsauken Hoard that are tentatively identified visually as having been made by “casting techniques” are listed in Table 2. The determination of whether a specific coin in low grade is either cast or environmentally damaged is problematic. As can be seen in Table 2, the average weight of the 36 identified coins is 97.7 grains (a range of 68.3 to 130.7 grains), the average diameter is 27.8 mm (26.5 to 29.2 mm) and the average specific gravity is 8.3 u (range of 6.5 to 9.3 u). Though the “look” and oily “feel” of a cast counterfeit has often been used to identify a possible cast, an additional attribution technique widely used is to determine if the coin has a “ring”

(resonating like a bell) when balanced on a finger-tip and sharply struck with another coin. The value of the "ring" in determining whether a coin is a cast counterfeit or not, can also be problematic. In addition, the type of "ring" a coin might make can be categorized based on the coin's metallic composition.⁴ The addition to copper of tin (resulting in bronze) or zinc (resulting in brass) will not necessarily eliminate a ring. The presence of lead however, will produce a flat or non-metallic ring. In addition it is thought that loss of a ring will also occur due to internal air or sponginess due to changes in the crystalline structure resulting from the casting versus striking process of coin manufacture. Similarly, damage to a struck coin, such as bending, holing, cutting, heating (fire) or environmental damage may eliminate or diminish the expected prolonged bell-like "ring" when struck. On the other hand, certain advanced casting techniques (such as "lost wax," as well as centrifugal and vacuum casting) do produce coins that may "ring like a bell." Of interest is that of the 36 suspected cast coins in the hoard, 26 do not have a ring. The proportion of these coins that have been subjected to mutilation also seems to be higher, with 15 specimens having been bent and three holed. The "type" of coin suspected to be cast spanned nearly all the varieties found in the Pennsauken Hoard.

Another key technique for determining a cast from a struck specimen is specific gravity. Regal halfpence were made from copper, which has a specific gravity of 8.8 u to 8.9 u. Lead has a specific gravity of 11.34 u, tin is 7.2 to 7.5 u, bronze (copper alloyed with 14% tin) is 7.4 to 8.9 u, zinc is 6.9 to 7.2 u, and brass is 8.4 to 8.7 u. Therefore any of these metals alloyed with copper will be expected to produce a coin with a specific gravity above or below the expected 8.8 to 8.9 u of copper. However, mixtures of these various metals such as 50% tin and 50 % lead can also produce a specific gravity of 8.89 u, which is the same as pure copper. Therefore specific gravity alone cannot be used as an absolute determinant of whether a coin is cast or struck. The very low specific gravities of some of the Pennsauken Hoard specimens could be the result of the casting material including silica (sand), which has a specific gravity of 2.6 u, or microscopic hollows of air produced during a crude casting process.

CONCLUSIONS:

The finding of a hoard of coins is important for no other reason than to give a partial window into the past. Interpretation of the purpose of a hoard and determination of the exact time that it was hidden can be problematic and rife with theoretical imaginings. However, when confronted with the Pennsauken Hoard of halfpence, some obvious conclusions can be made. The especially awful condition of the coins is the most striking feature. Most are so worn or damaged that no date is apparent and many are defaced with graffiti, bending or holes. Defacing with graffiti (such as X's), bending and other forms of mutilation were ways that were used to identify underweight counterfeit coins. Another striking feature of the Pennsauken Hoard coins was the representation of coinages for over a century with the late 1600's coinage of William III to the later issue George III coinage from the early 1800's. The date of the latter indicates the earliest point the hoard could have been finally assembled, though the hoard may have been in the process of being accumulated for many years prior to this latest dated coin. Finally, a

key characteristic of the coinage of the hoard is the large percentage of underweight and cast coins.

Based on the known facts about the Pennsauken Hoard, a working hypothesis for the “how” and the “why” this group of coins were collected can be formulated. The authors believe that the most probable theory to explain the accumulation of this hoard is that an honest (whether by personal nature or as a result of “encouragement by local governmental pressures”) shop keeper removed “bad” coins from circulation as they were acquired during business. When such low grade or obviously counterfeit coins were received in change, rather than passing on the bad coinage to the next customer, the shop keeper pulled them from circulation and tossed them into a container with the other “bad” coins. That the container used for sequestering the coins was a piggy bank has not been confirmed by the authors, and the eBay seller of the hoard did not provide any further description of the container other than it being a “piggy bank.” Why the coins were saved rather than simply being trashed is not apparent, other than the shop keeper possibly having felt that the amassed coins were not without some value and potentially usable in some way in the future; or to keep the coins from potentially re-entering circulation if they were retrieved from the trash by a less honorable individual. How or why the piggy bank was placed in a wall is not explained. Of course, there may be alternate reasons that the Pennsauken Hoard was formed and saved; but the stated theory seems to be the most likely given the known facts and observations surrounding it.

ENDNOTES

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- ³ Mossman, P., Smith, C., “Imported and Domestic Counterfeit Copper Coins in Pre-Federal America”, ed. Kleeberg, J. *Circulating Counterfeits in the Americas*, The American Numismatic Society, New York, 2000, pp. 6-15.
- ⁴ Taxay, D., *Counterfeit, Mis-struck and Unofficial U.S. Coins*, Arco Publishing Company, Inc., New York, 1963, pp 35-36.

COIN #	WT.	S.G.	DIA.	CAST?	RING	BENT	HOLED	TYPE OF COIN
1	96	7.2	28.6	YES	YES			BLANK
2	97.4	8.3	28.2	YES	NO	YES		BLANK
3	96.4	8.8	27.5	YES	YES	YES		BLANK
4	102.9	9.3	27.8		YES			BLANK
5	112.2	8.4	26		NO			BLANK
6	108.4	8.7	27.2		YES			BLANK
7	100.8	8.5	27.1		YES			BLANK - DEFACED WITH RADIAL SCRATCHES
8	103	8.7	28.1		NO			BLANK
9	75.2	8.6	28.2		YES	YES		BLANK, POSSIBLE BUTTON
10	126.4	8.6	28.6	YES	NO	YES		BLANK
11	117.8	8.6	29.6		NO		TWO	BLANK
12	81.8	7.8	26.6	YES	NO			BLANK
13	107.2	8.8	28.1		YES	YES		BLANK
14	99.7	8.5	28.4		YES	YES		BLANK
15	89.1	8.2	27.3		NO		START	BLANK - SMALL NOTCH
16	99.4	8.9	28.1		YES			BLANK - DEFACED WITH X - SMALL NOTCH
17	88.7	8	28.5		YES	YES		BLANK
18	89.6	8.5	27.2		YES		ONE	BLANK
19	97.1	8	28.6	YES	NO	YES		BLANK
20	109.9	8.4	28.3	YES	NO			BLANK
21	99.3	8.6	28	YES	NO			BLANK - DEFACED WITH X
22	131.8	8.7	28.3		NO			BLANK
23	57.4	9	27		YES	YES		BLANK
24	101.2	6.5	28.4	YES	NO			BLANK - SMALL NOTCH
AVG	99.5	8.4	27.9					
RANGE	57.4-131.8	6.5-9.3	26-29.6					
25	135.4	8.6	28.1		NO			WILLIAM III
26	124.2	8.6	26.8	YES	NO		ONE	WILLIAM III
27	120.5	8.7	28		NO			WILLIAM III
28	116.6	8	27.8		YES			WILLIAM III
29	121.7	8.7	28.3		YES			WILLIAM III
30	122.7	8.6	28.9	YES	YES			WILLIAM III
AVG	123.5	8.5	28					
RANGE	116.6-135.4	8-8.7	26.8-28.9					
31	111.7	8.6	26.5	YES	NO			GI - "17XX"
AVG	111.7	8.6	26.5					
32	130.7	8	28	YES	NO			GII - YOUNG BUST
33	95.9	8.7	27.3		YES			GII - "173X"
34	104.1	8.2	27.8	YES	YES	YES		GII - YOUNG BUST
35	129.8	8.9	29.1		YES			GII - YOUNG BUST
36	83.7	8.5	27.2		NO			GII - 1735
37	110.3	8.4	28.1		NO	YES		GII - YOUNG BUST - DEFACED
38	115.9	8.3	28.4	YES	NO			GII - YOUNG BUST
39	92.6	8.1	27.4		NO			GII - YOUNG BUST
40	122.8	8.7	28.6		YES			GII - "1738"
41	114.9	8.8	28.2	YES	NO			GII - YOUNG BUST
42	117.2	8.6	27.6		NO			GII - YOUNG BUST
43	113.9	8.7	28.5		YES			GII - YOUNG BUST
44	93.8	8.7	26.8	YES	YES	YES		GII - 1736
45	98.3	8.4	27.1	YES	YES			GII - YOUNG BUST
46	79.5	8.2	28.4	YES	NO	YES		GII - YOUNG BUST
47	123.7	8.7	28.3	YES	NO			GII - YOUNG BUST
48	84	6.5	27.6	YES	NO	YES		GII - YOUNG BUST
49	123.4	8.8	29.2	YES	NO	YES	ONE	GII - "1750"
50	68.3	8.5	27.5	YES	NO	YES		GII - YOUNG BUST
AVG	105.4	8.4	28					
RANGE	68.3-130.7	6.5-8.9	26.8-29.2					

Table 1. Coins in the Pennsauken Hoard

C4 Newsletter

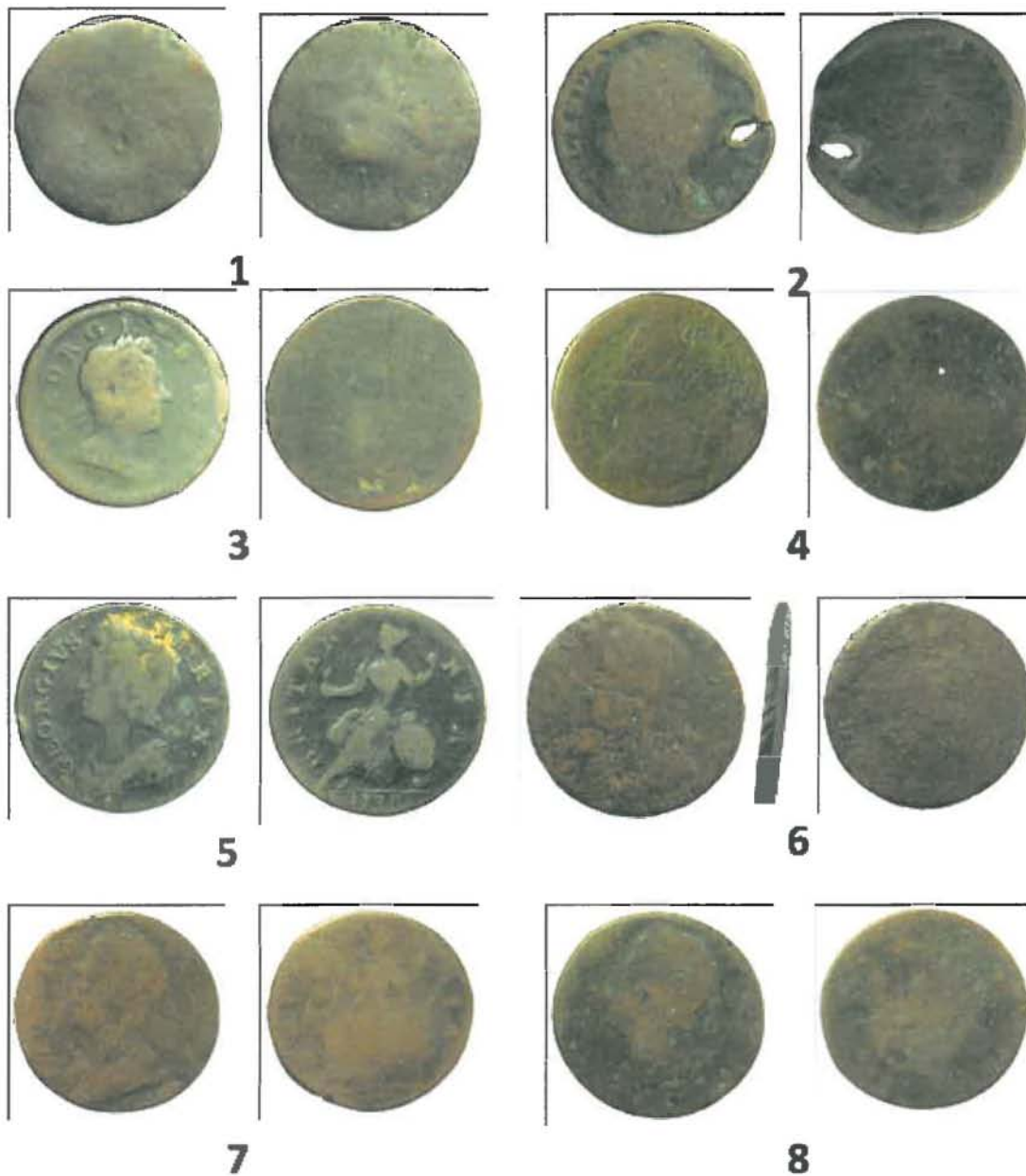
COIN #	WT.	S.G.	DIA.	CAST?	RING	BENT	HOLED	TYPE OF COIN
51	116.9	9.1	28.3		NO	YES		GII - MATURE BUST
52	100.5	8.4	28.4		YES			GII - MATURE BUST
53	59.5	6.7	27.3	YES	YES			GII - MATURE BUST
54	109.9	8.7	28.3		YES			GII - MATURE BUST
55	117.6	8.4	28.9		YES			GII - MATURE BUST
56	101.2	7.5	28	YES	NO		ONE	GII - MATURE BUST
57	89	8.3	27.3	YES	NO			GII - MATURE BUST
58	115.9	8.8	28.3		YES			GII - MATURE BUST
59	104.3	8.6	27.5	YES	YES			GII - MATURE BUST - REEDED EDGE
AVG	101.6	8.3	28					
RANGE	59.6-117.6	6.7-9.1	27.3-28.9					
60	87.5	8.1	27.1		YES			GII - IRISH
61	112.2	8.8	27.5		NO		ONE	GII - IRISH
62	81.1	8.8	27.1	YES	NO	YES		GII - IRISH - "1760"
AVG	93.6	8.6	27.2					
RANGE	81.1-112.2	8.1-8.8	27.1-27.5					
63	83.7	8.6	27.1		YES	YES		GIII - 1770-1775 TYPE
64	70.2	8.7	27.4	YES	NO	YES		GIII 70-75 TYPE - "177X"
65	95.8	8.5	27.4		YES			GIII - "1775"
66	92.8	8.4	27.5		NO	YES		GIII - "177X"
67	93.6	8.3	27.8		YES			GIII - 1770-1775 TYPE
68	70.4	8.8	27.4	YES	YES			GIII - 1770-1775 TYPE
69	100.7	8.5	28.1		YES			GIII - "1775" - LONG NECK FAMILY
70	94.8	8.6	27	YES	NO	YES	ONE	GIII - 1770-1775 TYPE
71	88.7	8.7	28.2	YES	NO			GIII - 1770-1775 TYPE
72	79.8	8.6	26.6		NO			GIII - "1775" - YOUNG HEAD FAMILY
73	83.3	7.9	27.7	YES	NO	YES		GIII - 1770-1775 TYPE
74	74.8	7.9	28.7	YES	YES			GIII - "177X"
75	112.1	8.4	28.2		NO			GIII - "1773" - CLIPPED - AGING GEORGE
76	84.3	8.7	27.1		NO			GIII - 1770-1775 TYPE
77	104.2	8.8	27.9		YES		ONE	GIII - 1770-1775 TYPE - AGING GEORGE
78	89.8	8.4	27.1		YES			GIII - "1775", DIE BREAK IN LAP
AVG	88.7	8.5	27.6					
RANGE	70.2-112.1	7.9-8.8	26.6-28.7					
79	100.9	8.6	27.7		YES			GIII - IRISH
80	101	9.1	27.3		YES			GIII - IRISH
81	97	8.6	27.9	YES	NO	YES		GIII - IRISH
82	78.9	9.3	27.3	YES	NO			GIII - IRISH
83	98.9	8.5	27.1	YES	YES			GIII - IRISH
AVG	95.3	8.8	27.5					
RANGE	78.9-101	8.5-9.3	27.7-27.9					
84	94.2	8.8	27.1		NO	YES		MACHINS - 13 OBVERSE
85	89.5	8.8	27.4		YES			CONN. STATE - DEFACED
86	104	9.2	27.4		YES			POSSIBLE CONN. STATE OR NOVA EBORAC
87	114.6	8.2	28.6		YES	YES		GIII - 1806-1807 TYPE
88	68.7	7.8	25.8		NO			US CENT - FLOWING HAIR - POOR
89	71.4	8.4	28.1		YES		ONE	POSSIBLE BUTTON WITH DESIGN
AVG	90.4	8.5	27.4					
RANGE	71.4-114.6	7.8-9.2	25.8-28.1					
TOTAL								
AVG.	99.8	8.5	27.8					
RANGE	135.4-57.4	6.5-9.3	25.8-29.6					

Table 1. (continued) Coins in the Pennsauken Hoard

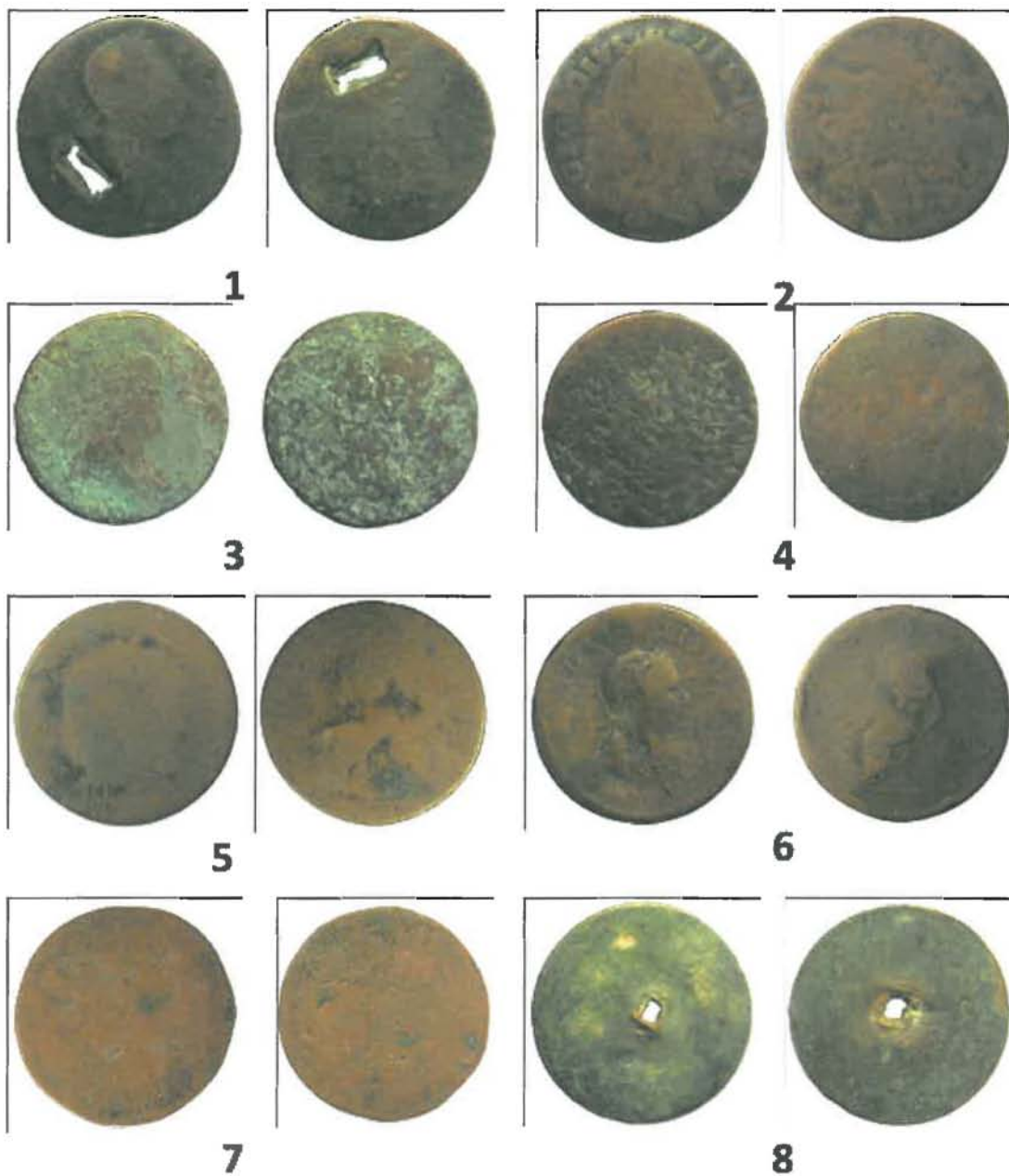
COIN #	WT.	S.G.	DIA.	CAST?	RING	BENT	HOLED	TYPE OF COIN
1	96	7.2	28.6	YES	YES			BLANK
2	97.4	8.3	28.2	YES	NO	YES		BLANK
3	96.4	8.8	27.5	YES	YES	YES		BLANK
10	126.4	8.6	28.6	YES	NO	YES		BLANK
12	81.8	7.8	26.6	YES	NO			BLANK
19	97.1	8	28.6	YES	NO	YES		BLANK
20	109.9	8.4	28.3	YES	NO			BLANK
21	99.3	8.6	28	YES	NO			BLANK - DEFACED WITH X
24	101.2	6.5	28.4	YES	NO			BLANK - SMALL NOTCH
26	124.2	8.6	26.8	YES	NO		ONE	WILLIAM III
30	122.7	8.6	28.9	YES	YES			WILLIAM III
31	111.7	8.6	26.5	YES	NO			GI - "17XX"
32	130.7	8	28	YES	NO			GII - YOUNG BUST
34	104.1	8.2	27.8	YES	YES	YES		GII - YOUNG BUST
38	115.9	8.3	28.4	YES	NO			GII - YOUNG BUST
41	114.9	8.8	28.2	YES	NO			GII - YOUNG BUST
44	93.8	8.7	26.8	YES	YES	YES		GII - 1736
45	98.3	8.4	27.1	YES	YES			GII - YOUNG BUST
46	79.5	8.2	28.4	YES	NO	YES		GII - YOUNG BUST
47	123.7	8.7	28.3	YES	NO			GII - YOUNG BUST
48	84	6.5	27.6	YES	NO	YES		GII - YOUNG BUST
49	123.4	8.8	29.2	YES	NO	YES	ONE	GII - "1750"
50	68.3	8.5	27.5	YES	NO	YES		GII - YOUNG BUST
53	59.5	6.7	27.3	YES	YES			GII - MATURE BUST
56	101.2	7.5	28	YES	NO		ONE	GII - MATURE BUST
57	89	8.3	27.3	YES	NO			GII - MATURE BUST
59	104.3	8.6	27.5	YES	YES			GII - MATURE BUST - REEDED EDGE
62	81.1	8.8	27.1	YES	NO	YES		GII - IRISH - "1760"
64	70.2	8.7	27.4	YES	NO	YES		GIII 70-75 TYPE - "177X"
68	70.4	8.8	27.4	YES	YES			GIII - 1770-1775 TYPE
70	94.8	8.6	27	YES	NO	YES	ONE	GIII - 1770-1775 TYPE
71	88.7	8.7	28.2	YES	NO			GIII - 1770-1775 TYPE
73	83.3	7.9	27.7	YES	NO	YES		GIII - 1770-1775 TYPE
81	97	8.6	27.9	YES	NO	YES		GIII - IRISH
82	78.9	9.3	27.3	YES	NO			GIII - IRISH
83	98.9	8.5	27.1	YES	YES			GIII - IRISH
AVG	97.7	8.3	27.8					
RANGE	68.3-130.7	6.5-9.3	26.5-29.2					

Table 2. Pennsauken Hoard coins identified visually as having been made by "casting techniques"

HOARD – PLATE 1



HOARD – PLATE 2

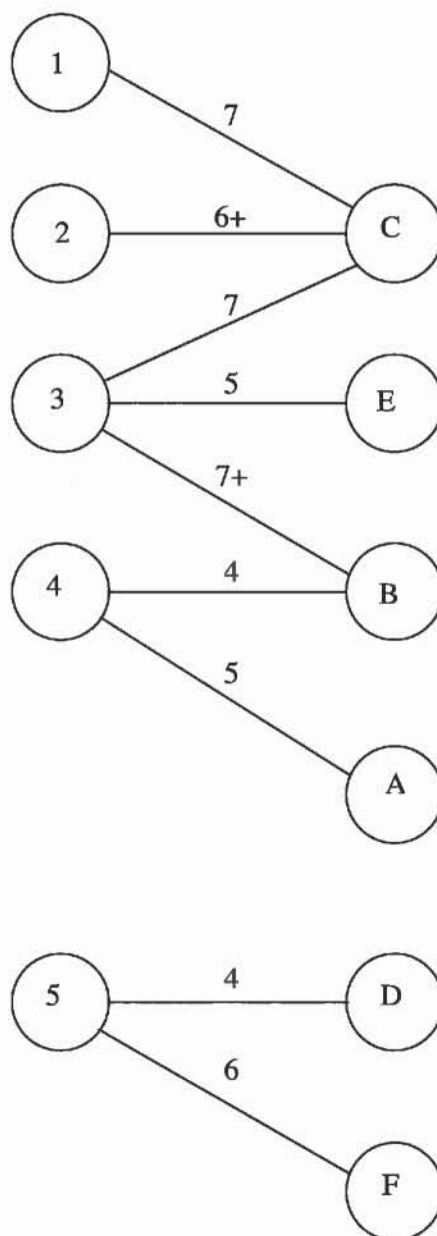


DIE INTERLOCK CHART FOR ST. PATRICK HALFPENNIES

(Syd Martin)

The following diagram shows the interlink relationships of the St. Patrick halfpenny dies, along with our current understanding of their rarity.

OBVERSE RARITY REVERSE



2011 – SECOND QUARTER COLONIAL AUCTION RECAP

(Michael Wierzba)

Since John Agre wrote the first quarter colonial auction recap in the last C4 newsletter, there have been many sales containing some significant colonial coppers. Both Heritage and the newly formed Stack's-Bowers firms put on first class auctions at many of the major conventions held since March. Your author attended most of these auctions in person, being able to view a good number of the highlight pieces in hand.

Heritage Sacramento ANA National Money Show Auction March 17th

This session from Heritage contained some nice colonial material in all categories. Some coins were fresh while others have come to market a few times in the past few years. Some highlights are described below.

- Lot 3003. 1652 Pine Tree Shilling Noe-17 NGC VF35. This was a pleasing original example of a type that is as popular as ever in today's market. A small planchet or striking defect is noted at 12 o'clock on the obverse, but otherwise a very attractive example. It realized \$4,025 to an internet bidder.
- Lot 3011. 1787 Fugio 11-X ANACS XF45. This piece was housed in an older style ANACS holder, which is not necessarily one of the top tier grading companies today. This piece has nice strong detail, with some planchet flaws on the obverse and reverse. It still realized a fairly strong number selling for \$1,322.
- Lot 3012. 1787 Fugio 18-U PCGS XF45 CAC Sticker. In contrast to the prior lot, this piece was very choice original tan color with smooth and glossy surfaces. The rarities are about the same, though this PCGS graded choice example sold for \$2,070 with the buyer's premium.

Stack's-Bowers Baltimore Convention Auction March 29th

This auction was special as it was the first auction held by the newly formed firm of Stack's-Bowers Galleries. In late January, two major auction houses, Stack's Numismatics and Bowers and Merena Galleries joined forces to make one large company, effectively to compete against Heritage for top quality consignments. Many numismatic personalities are together under one roof now, and we are excited for the future of the company and for some fantastic coins we all should see in the future. There was a nice colonial session held on Tuesday, of which we were active participants.

- Lot 7. 1781 Libertas Americana Medal Silver. A fairly nice example of this very rare and popular silver medal. This piece saw very strong bidding, as is quickly jumped past our pre-auction estimate and finally sold for \$80,500.

- Lot 138. 1652 Pine Tree Sixpence. Noe-33. PCGS XF45. This was a very attractive example for the grade, with great color and excellent eye appeal. The strike was quite bold and the centering was very good for a coin that almost always comes off center. It was a popular piece at the auction realizing \$7,188.
- Lot 141. St. Patrick's Farthing. PCGS VF30. An attractive darker brown example of this ever-popular type coin. The surfaces were ever so slightly micro-granular, but overall, a very nice coin. These always do well in auction, and this was no surprise when it sold for \$3,565.
- Lot 163. 1783 Chalmers Shilling Short Worm. PCGS VF30. A beautiful, original example with choice surfaces and excellent pale gray color. A few light surface marks could be noted on the reverse, but did not distract from the overall beauty. Finding choice examples of Chalmers coinage can be very difficult. This piece realized \$12,650 in spirited bidding.
- Lot 193. 1787 New Jersey Maris 31-L. PCGS AU50. A coin that we thought was very undergraded by PCGS. When viewing this coin, we could find almost no wear of any kind. We knew it was one of the finest examples known of this scarcer die variety. It sold to a well-known collector for \$8,050.
- Lot 199. 1786 Vermont RR-6 PCGS VF35. This was a very attractive choice tan coin with minimal flawing and very smooth and glossy surfaces. The only small knock on this piece was the slightly off center strike (very common for this issue), though most of the date still remained. We liked this coin very much, as did others as it sold for \$4,169.
- Lot 227. 1787 Fugio 8-B Housed in Bank of New York Lucite Holder. Collectors familiar with Fugio coppers have known about these coins from the Bank of NY hoard for years. They are always quite popular with colonial collectors, but this one was quite shocking, as it blew away our auction estimate selling for \$4,025.

Heritage Central States Convention Signature and Platinum Night Auctions

Heritage puts on a great auction at this show. This was our first time setting up at the Central States Convention, and we must say, the venue and the workers are top notch. Later this year, the ANA World's Fair of Money will be held in the same convention center. Heritage had some very nice colonials going to the auction block this time around. We will start with the Signature Auction (lots in the 3000 range) followed up by the Platinum Night results the next night (lots in the 5000 range).

- Lot 3910. 1652 Oak Tree Shilling. Noe-14 NGC VF35. A very attractive and well-struck example of this popular "Spiny Tree" type. The surfaces were nice and original. We liked this piece a lot and it sold for a reasonable \$6,900.

- Lot 3914. St. Patrick's Farthing NGC XF45. This piece had fantastic color and surfaces and a very large, bright splasher. No problems could be noted except for a large planchet clip, something we have not seen on this issue very often. It was very popular in the auction selling for \$8,050, and continuing the trend of strong results for this denomination in major auction settings.
- Lot 3925. 1786 New Jersey Maris 20-N PCGS XF40 CAC Sticker. This was a nice example of the "Drunken Die Cutter" NJ variety, but made more special (in your author's opinion) as being the first colonial I ever purchased out of an auction. Yes, at the 1995 Griffee Sale held at the 1st C4 Convention, your author, age 14, added this coin to his collection. It sold for a bargain at \$977. I guess we should have bought it back!
- Lot 3927. 1785 Nova Constellatio Crosby 3-B PCGS AU58+ CAC Sticker. A very attractive example that gives us the opportunity to describe the + grade to anyone unfamiliar with them. Plus graded coins are pieces that stand out above other examples graded the same, but are not quite high enough grade to make the next jump. This + graded Nova was very attractive and sold for a fair \$3,105.

Platinum Night Session

- Lot 5003. St. Patrick's Farthing. PCGS AU50. A technically high grade coin, with areas of detail surpassing the given grade, but with other areas of very weak strike, like on St. Patrick's face. The color was pleasing and the surfaces were smooth. It realized \$7,475.
- Lot 5005. Pacific Northwest Company Token. NGC VF35. This was one of the stronger examples we have seen for this scarce type. The color was a bit on the bright side, and there were some dark brown toning streaks, but all in all, a great example for the colonial collector. It realized \$13,800.

Heritage Long Beach Auction June 2nd

This was a rather light session in colonials, with many lots of lower graded state coppers. There were a few highlights mixed in though, which are described below.

- Lot 3002. 1652 Oak Tree Shilling Noe 4. NGC AU55. A higher grade example of this popular type. This die variety is well known for having a weak or no tree visible due to striking. The coin sold for \$9,200.
- Lot 3007. New Yorke Token Brass PCGS F15. A very rare token in any grade, though this piece has made many appearances over the last few years. It first sold in Heritage's 1/2002 sale for \$8,740. Next it was sold in 5/2008 for \$32,200 before coming up for a third time in Heritage in January 2011, selling for \$18,400. It realized a bit better than it's last result selling for \$19,550.

- Lot 3009. 1787 New Jersey Maris 35-J The Overdate Variety NGC VF35. A very high grade example and the strongest strike we have personally ever seen on this rare die variety. This coin also boasted a wonderful undertype, being boldly overstruck on a British Counterfeit halfpenny. The surfaces were evenly porous and the color was a bit dark, but it is still one of the finest known examples of this major type that almost never comes to market. It sold for a very fair \$16,100.

Stack's-Bowers Baltimore Convention Auction June 14th

This session was the second Baltimore auction conducted by Stacks-Bowers and there were some very nice fresh colonials, including some New Jersey coppers from a known C4 collection. We viewed the coins on Monday, flew home, bid online, and then flew back to Baltimore on Wednesday for the show.

- Lot 164. 1652 Oak Tree Shilling Noe-10 The Ghost Tree. Ex. Roper. NGC XF40. A nice condition example of this scarce die variety, known for its etched tree design. It did well in the auction, selling for \$12,650, a nice increase from its prior auction appearance in the January 2007 Americana sale where it brought \$9,775.
- Lot 177. 1788 Massachusetts Half Cent. Ryder 1-B PCGS MS63BN. This piece had good color and nice surfaces, but was extremely optimistically graded by PCGS. Others in the room noticed as well as it sold very a seemingly very cheap \$2,875.
- Lot 184. 1786 New Jersey Maris 12-I No Coulter F15. The first of a nice run of choice NJ coppers that have been off the market for many years. This piece was undergraded in our opinion, being at least VF20 for the die variety. There were a few surfaces marks and scrapes but overall it was quite pleasing. It sold for a robust \$4,025 in spirited bidding.
- Lot 195. 1786 New Jersey Maris 24-P XF40. A choice and well pedigreed piece, being from the Frontenac, Boyd, Ryder and Parsons collections. This piece was made a bit better by having a fully struck date, something that is not easy to find on many examples of this die variety. It sold for \$1,725.
- Lot 206. 1787 New Jersey Maris 48-g AU50. A coin that pedigrees back to the Henry Garrett collection. When sold there it was described as Uncirculated with ample amounts of original mint red luster remaining. Something about the "mint red" does not look quite right to us, and judging by the price, others thought the same. It brought \$3,738 after selling for more in 1992.
- Lot 208. 1787 New Jersey Maris 53-j XF40. Another coin, which we thought, was conservatively graded, though one could argue it between XF40 and AU50. The surfaces were problem free and the strike was very bold for this variety. It finished at \$2,070.

- Lot 209. 1787 New Jersey Maris 55-m U/S Variety. VF30. A very pleasing example of this super popular major Red Book type. The color was a light tan and the surfaces were smooth and glossy. We liked this coin very much, as well as many other collectors as it sold for \$2,875.
- Lot 217. 1788 New Jersey Maris 66-v XF40. This was a technically very strong coin, stronger than the grade given. The surfaces were evenly porous and the color was a bit dark. It is a well pedigreed coin though, coming from the Picker collection and described in the sale as “the sharpest impression seen for variety” in that auction. It was hotly contested in this sale bringing \$4,888.
- Lot 219. 1787 New Jersey Maris 72-z. VF25. A high grade example of this very difficult New Jersey variety. Long time C4 members will remember this exact coin from the 1996 C4 Auction of Scott Barnes NJ coppers. The surfaces are evenly granular, but the detail is very bold and the undertype is quite visible. It sold for what we expected at \$7,475.
- Lot 229. 1792 Washington President Plain Edge. PCGS VF35. A very nice example of this very rare Washington piece. This coin previously was from the Norweb collection of Washingtonia sold by ANR in 2006. It sold for \$29,900 in 2006, and realized \$37,375 in 2011.
- Lot 234. 1787 Fugio New Haven Restrike in Silver PCGS MS63+. A beautiful example of this popular “restrike” in silver. This piece had great color and fantastic toning across the obverse and reverse, which pushed this piece to a + grade above the two other MS63 graded examples. It sold for above our expectations at \$28,750.

The second quarter of the year brought some fantastic colonial rarities and high grade type to the market, some of which have not been in public auction in decades. The market is still incredibly hot for rare colonial die varieties and choice mid to upper grade type coins. It seems that the colonial market is on an upswing, at least compared to 2009 to early 2010. As pointed out in John Agre’s write-up from the 1st quarter of the year, PCGS graded type colonials are bringing more than other company graded or raw examples. Though as shown by the New Jersey coppers recently auctioned at Stacks-Bowers, fresh colonials of any kind are bringing strong money no matter if raw or professionally graded. This is a fun time to be a colonial coin collector and time will tell what beauties come up to auction in the second half of the year!

*****ANNOUNCEMENTS*****

In accordance with our by-laws, those who have recently joined C4 as provisional members are listed below. If any current C4 member in good standing has a reason any of the following should be denied membership in C4, please contact either your regional VP or the President of the Club, Jim Rosen. The new provisional members, with their home states, are :

Stuart Hanebuth - NY	Jim Smees - PA
Jay Knipe - CT	Scott Stahler - CA
David McEchron - IA	Ron Tabaka - MN
Tom Sheehan - WA	Henry Warshaw - MO

CALL FOR CONVENTION SPEAKERS

If you would like to be a speaker at the C4 Convention in Boston this Fall, please send an email to Mike Packard at mikepackard@me.com. The email should include your name, the topic on which you wish to speak and the approximate length of your talk.

Don't want to speak, but itching to find out more about a colonial or confederation-era topic? Contact Mike at the above email address, and tell him what would (or who) you would like to hear. He will see if he can find someone to give a talk on the subject.

UPCOMING C4 MEETINGS

C4 will be having an open meeting at the ANA's World's Fair of Money in Chicago this August. The convention runs from August 16th to the 20th at the Donald E Stephens Convention Center, 555 North River Rd., Rosemont, IL 60018. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for 9:00 AM on Saturday August 20th, one hour before the bourse floor opens to the public, in Room 7.

C4 will also be having a meeting at the Whitman Coin & Collectables Expo in Philadelphia September 15th to the 17th. The convention will be held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, 1101 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Again, we tentatively have a C4 Meeting scheduled for 9:00 AM on Saturday September 17th, which is one hour before the bourse opens to the public.

Our meetings are more of a social gathering where we might go over a little business. So please plan to attend and be prepared to have some fun! As these conventions approach, please check scheduling and room numbers. More information about the conventions, schedules, educational events, hotels, etc. can be found at the websites for the ANA and Whitman.

Obtaining Back Copies of C4 Newsletter and C4 Auction Catalogues

Ray Williams: As you all know, Jim Rosen will become President of C4 in November. There are many things I do in C4 that I do as a member and not as president. These will continue. One of the things I've done as President was to store cases of C4 Newsletters and old C4 Auction catalogs at my house. To relieve some of the burden on the incoming President, I have obtained a volunteer to take this on... Wayne Shelby. Wayne has agreed to store the excess newsletters and catalogs at his house. People wishing to purchase items that are still available would pay the treasurer. Upon receipt of the money, the Treasurer (Charlie Rorher) will contact Wayne, who will mail out the material. If you have questions of what material is available, you can contact Wayne at:



dughistory@juno.com



C4 Offers Important Colonial Books

For more information on the following three books, published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4), visit the C4 website at www.colonialcoins.org. These books may be ordered directly from: Charles Davis, Numismatic Literature, P.O. Box 547, Wenham, MA 01984; Tel: 978-468-2933; Fax: (978) 468 7893; email: numislit@aol.com.

- (1) Jordan, Lou. "John Hull, The Mint, and The Economics of Massachusetts Coinage," Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2002.
- (2) Vlack, Robert, "An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coinage in the Americas," Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2004.
- (3) Martin, Sydney. "The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood (1722-1724)," Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2007.

Hardbound copies of past C4 auction catalogues are available in very limited numbers. If interested, contact Ray Williams or Leo Shane.

The Daniel Frank Sedwick database of fake cobs is now on ForgeryNetwork :
<http://www.forgerynetwork.com/default.aspx?keyword=cob>.
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The Silver Coins of Massachusetts.

The Silver Coins of Massachusetts by

Christopher J. Salmon is a splendidly illustrated review of the silver coins of Massachusetts, employing the latest historical and numismatic evidence as well as novel scientific analysis. Minting techniques are explored in detail. All varieties of the coinage are newly classified with a consistent yet flexible taxonomic system that lists the varieties in chronological order and can readily accommodate potential future discoveries. The system allows an appreciation for how varieties evolved and the relative degree of change that occurred at each step. It is designed to be as simple as possible without oversimplifying, with all varieties named according to their obverse and reverse dies. The book includes a fully illustrated atlas that details important characteristic features. The last part of the atlas displays each variety at actual size to aid in attribution. Regardless of your specialty, adding a Massachusetts Shilling to your collection is always a welcome event. Consider adding this book to your library. To order, call Megan at ANS with your credit card at 212-571-4470 ext 117.

C4 Membership Dues

Annual dues are currently \$25.00 for Regular Membership and \$10.00 for Junior Membership (under 18 years of age). They are payable on a calendar year basis... due January 1. The year through which you are paid appears after your name on the mailing address label on the C4 Newsletter envelope. Life Memberships can be purchased for 25 times the annual membership cost, or \$625.00. You may mail checks (made out to "C4") to:

Charlie Rohrer
C4 Treasurer



Thank you for paying in a timely manner... It makes my job easier and is much appreciated!

NECROLOGY

Eugene R. "Gene" Kosche, 82, and his wife Ruth S. Kosche, 92, residents of Route 7A, Shaftsbury, Vermont died Monday, 17 January 2011 as a result of a structure fire at their residence. As Curator of Military and Mechanical Arts at the Bennington (VT) Museum, Gene had access to and was responsible for what may be the finest collection of Vermont Cents in existence. Gene enjoyed assisting numismatists in accessing and studying the collection, and in providing insights into the Vermont mint.

Alan Grace
March 4, 1945-April 13, 2011



Bibliophiles and just plain lovers of books were greatly saddened when on April 13, 2011 Master Bookbinder Alan Grace suddenly died at the age of 66. Alan was born March 4, 1945 in Dorset, England to parents John and Violet Grace. He married Maureen Barton Grace in 1969, and they were together for 42 years. In 1970, Alan and Maureen started Grace Bindings, where they have worked together since. Alan's book binding artistry was internationally known and respected. Alan and Maureen Grace came to the United States in 1985 largely to work more closely with the legendary book collector Armand Champa, whose unrivaled collection of Numismatic Literature was sold by Charles Davis in four sales during 1994 and 1995. But soon after his arrival and association with Champa, his reputation spread in the United States and he began working with most of the well-known American Bibliophiles. Initially, he worked in Louisville near Champa, but then set up shop in Jacksonville, Florida just a few years ago to be closer to his family in Georgia.

Odds are, that in any large sale of numismatic books, more than a few would include books bound by Grace in fine leathers, Italian marbled papers and have a distinct "old world" look which was Alan's signature. Alan lent his hand to a variety of projects including the well-known Taylor Plates, all the Colonial Beach Symposium books and more Chapman's and Crosby's than one can imagine.

Alan Grace was a kind and loving soul and will be truly missed by all those close to him. He was called "the Gentle Giant" by his friends and known lovingly to his grandchildren as "Papa Alan." He will be remembered for his wit, sense of humor, loving nature and his many interests. Alan loved his work (bookbinding), cooking, traveling, photography and relaxing with movies and watching River Cottage and English TV Shows.

He is survived by his wife Maureen, his son Martyn and daughter-in-law Pam; his son Russell; his grandchildren: Amber, Ashley, Anna, Jamie and Clara; and his sisters: Jean Waite, Violet Allen and Pat Farnfield.

C4 LIBRARY NEWS

(Leo Shane)

Thank You to those who have checked their old copies of auction catalogs and donated them to the library. There's still room for more. The Library is still interested in getting copies of past auction catalogs that we currently do not have. Thank You to those who have checked their old copies and donated them to the library. There's still room for more. Take a look at the list shown on the club website. Any that are not already in the library are greatly appreciated. Remember, all catalogs that have at least one Colonial will have the colonial section separated and added to the library archive. Catalogs with major colonial content will be retained in their entirety.

Below are new items donated to the club since the last C4 Newsletter. They are available for loan to any C4 member. A complete list of library holdings and instructions on borrowing them is available at the C4 website www.colonialcoins.org. Thanks to all who have donated items.

Books and Auction Catalogs (all donated by Ray Williams):

Williams, Ray, Randy Clark, *A Piece Of Numismatic History That Should Not Be Forgotten To The Ages*, 22 Copies Printed by Ray Williams, October 2010, Trenton, NJ – Hardbound Copy and Loose Page Copy.

Arons, Marvin MD, M. Felix Freshwater MD, Richard Hegel MA, *Abel's Ear: A Colonial Tale of Plastic Surgery, Patriotism, and Silversmithing*, Journal of The New Haven Colony Historical Society, Phoenix Press, Vol.44 No. 2, Spring 1999.

Bowers & Merena, *The Robert W. Miller Sr. Collection*, 20-21 November 1992, New York, NY (2 copies).

Bowers and Ruddy, *The New York Public Library Collection*, 30 October 1982, New York, NY.

Kurt R. Krueger, *The 1982 GSNA Auction*, 24-27 June 1982, Iola, WI.

Bowers & Merena, *The Estates of Philip M. Mann Jr & Glenn B. Smedley*, 13-14 September 1988, New York, NY (2 copies).

Bowers & Merena, *The Leonard J. Torok MD Collection*, 14-15 September 1998, New York, NY (2 copies).

Coin Galleries, *Ancient and Modern Coins of the World and the United States Paper Money Medals and Decorations*, 22 July 1992, New York, NY.

Coin Galleries, *Ancient and Modern Coins of the World and the United States Paper Money Medals and Decorations*, 17 July 1991, New York, NY.

Bowers & Merena, *Sussex Collection*, 11-13 June 1990, New York, NY.

Bowers & Merena, *The Collection of Stuart C. Levine MD*, 10-11 April 1986, New York, NY.

Bowers & Merena, *The Baron Von Stetten – Buchenbach and Harvey E. Smith Collections*, 10-12 November 1987, New York, NY.

Bowers & Ruddy, *The Garrett Collection Sales for the John Hopkins University*, 28-29 November 1979, New York, NY.

Spring 2011

Bowers & Ruddy, *The Garrett Collection Sales for the John Hopkins University*, 26-27 March 1980, Beverly Hills, CA.

Bowers & Ruddy, *The Garrett Collection Sales for the John Hopkins University*, 1-2 October 1980, New York, NY.

Bowers & Ruddy, *The Garrett Collection Sales for the John Hopkins University*, 25-26 March 1981, Beverly Hills, CA.

Suggestions for additions to the library are always appreciated. Please consider donating books, auction catalogs, etc. to the library. Remember, those who are learning about colonials now are those who will be buying your coins later. Thank You, my E Mail is Leo_J_Shane@hotmail.com or write to me at [REDACTED]



Ray Williams gives a stirring talk on Colonial coins to an appreciative audience!

CLASSIFIED ADS

Ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows:

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	4 issues	Copy Size
1 page	\$150	\$250	\$325	\$400	6" x 9"
1/2 page	\$115	\$190	\$250	\$300	6" x 4.5"

NOTE: THESE RATES WILL INCREASE BEGINNING WITH VOLUME 18.

Covers cost somewhat more (please inquire). If you want to include a photo with your ad there will be an additional \$10 charge. A black and white photo will be needed, but the size can be adjusted. Please send check with your ad. We accept camera-ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 10 lines of text.

NOTICE: The Colonial Coin Collectors Club does not review the ads provided for accuracy, nor does it assess any items offered for sale relative to authenticity, correct descriptions, or the like. C4 is not to be considered a party to any transactions occurring between members based on such ads, and will in no way be responsible to either the buyer or seller.



Colonial Era Numismatic Collection

I have a nice selection of colonial coins and currency for sale from my personal collection. E-mail your interest and I will send high quality photos, along with the asking price, of what is available.

Gary Trudgen: gtrudgen@stny.rr.com



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I am interested in acquiring counterstamped Rosa Americana coins or photos of them. Unusual examples from this series are always of interest, including mis-struck examples. I'm also seeking unusual edge markings on Kentucky pieces. I will pay top prices for the following New Jersey coppers: 21-R, 24-Q, 44-c, 48-X. Syd Martin: sfmartin5@comcast.net

Bob Merchant,

[illegible]

copperclem@comcast.net

copperclem.com

CTCC #55

FAX: 503-350-2320

1-206-232-2560, PO Box 7568, Dallas, TX 75209, USA

John Dirnbauer; [REDACTED]
Email: john@johndirnbauercoins.com.

Please contact Roger Siboni at novacaesarea@yahoo.com.

ershye@aol.com

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email: njtodd7@hotmail.com

Wanted: Canadian Blacksmith Tokens & Jeffrey Hoare auction catalogs.

Lottery Tickets for Sale. United States Lottery, Philadelphia, Nov. 18, 1776, AU, Rev Fold, \$500. (2) State of NY, March 1815, Medical Science Lottery, AU in Red, Winning ticket \$135. (3) Conn. Simsbury Bridge Lottery, 1781, UNC, \$150. (4) Another of the same with wide extra margin, UNC, \$200. (5) NH, June 14, 1813; Union Canal Lottery, XF, \$175. (6) NH, c. 1800; Amoskeag Canal Lottery, XF with "6" written on ticket, \$150. (7) MA, South Hadley Canal Lottery, Feb. 25, 1802, XF; \$125. (8) PA, Reading, June 4, 1809, Reading Church and School House Lottery, AU \$150. (9) MA, Semi-Annual State Lottery 2nd Class, March 2, 1790, VF, \$150. (10) MA State Lottery 3rd Class, March 2, 1790, XF; \$175. (11) DC, Washington City Canal Lottery #12; c. 1800, XF, \$110. (12) DC, Washington City Canal Lottery, c. 1810, F-VF, \$110. (13) Commonwealth of Mass, State Lottery, Jan. 12, 1818, AU edge stain, \$90. (14) KY, Lexington, 1811, Lexington Library Lottery, AU cut cancel, \$100. (15) Rhode Island, Cumberland, 1825, Providence & Wooster Road Lottery, XF small edge tear, RARE, \$200. (16) ME, County of York, Nov. 1760, F soiled, EX RARE (Possibly Unique) and earliest Maine item seen, \$1100.

Colonial Coins for Sale. Massachusetts: ½ cent 1787, 5A, XF, \$1250; Cent 11C, F-VF, \$350; Cent 1788 11F, F-VF, \$400. New Jersey: 1786 24P, tan XF, \$2350; 1786 25S, F/VF porous, \$350; 1787 56n, VF-XF, \$750. Connecticut: 1785, 4.3-D, VG cleaned \$85; 1785 5-F5, VF, \$375; 1786 5.5-M; VF full date, \$500; 1787 29.1-P, F-VF, \$650; 1787 25-b, VF-EF, \$800; 1787 42-kk.2, F-VF, \$475; 1787, 48-g.5, F, \$475. Vermont: RR10, F-VF, \$575; RR11, F-VF, \$875; RR20, VF, \$700; RR21, VF, \$2100. FUGIO: 7-P, XF, \$1400; 12-M, AXF, \$1250; 13-X, XF, \$1200; 17-S, XF, \$1600; 18-H, AVF, \$1200; 19-SS, Dark XF, \$4000. Washington Unity Cent, Slabbed MS-62, \$2400. Pitt Halfpenny, AXF, \$2800.

Richard August,

Leo Shane

Leo J Shane@hotmail.com

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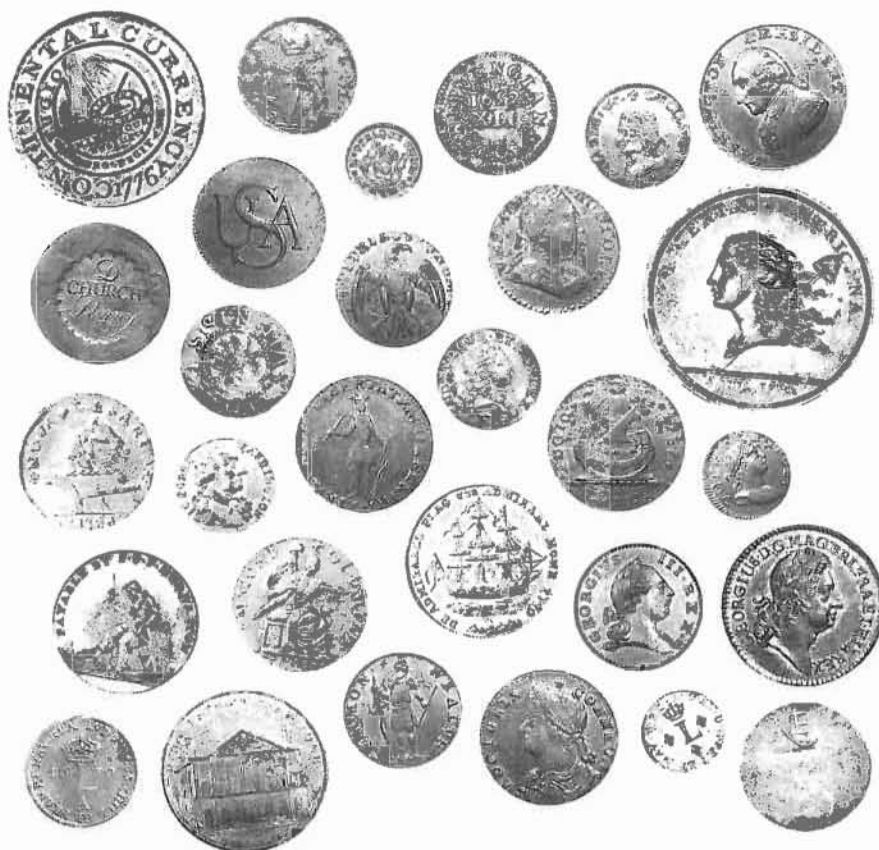
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